BIOGRAPHICAL AND PORTRAIT

CYCLOPEDIA

OF

MONTGOMERY COUNTY,

PENNSYLVANIA,

CONTAINING BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES OF PROMINENT AND REPRESENTATIVE CITIZENS OF THE COUNTY,

TOGETHER WITH AN

INTRODUCTORY HISTORICAL SKETCH

EDITED BY

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PREFACE.

HISTORY AND BIOGRAPHY—the life of the nation and the story of the individual—are inseparably connected, for history is the synthesis of biography and biography is the analysis of history; and that department of history most valuable for the intelligent study of national life is biography, as it affords one great means of historical generalization.

Biographical history is now popular because important. It secured national recognition in the Centennial year of the American Republic, when Congress recommended to every city, town and county of the United States the necessity and duty of securing for preservation and future use their local history and the biographies of their prominent and worthy citizens. Biography teaching the highest good by presenting worthy examples, has become an indispensable element of all branches of history, and aids largely in the study of the philosophy of history. In its earlier stages of growth, biography was only the story of the lives of heroes and great men often but partly and partially told, but in its later development it is the more impartial and satisfactory record of the great, the deserving and the useful in every walk of life. Biography also preserves the names of thousands remarkable for wisdom, virtue, intelligence, energy and ability, and who only lacked opportunity to have won fame and distinction.

History and biography have ceased to be ponderous and pompous; have ceased to be the story of monarchy and the record of kings, and are now the life of the nation and the chronicles of individual effort. We have in local biographical history a most potent and entertaining method of instructing by precedent, of inciting to emulation, and of preserving the names of those who contributed to the transformation of the counties of this State from a primitive condition to their present wonderful state of development. No less important is a just and fitting memorial to those men and women who have impressed themselves upon their respective communities, whether through industrial, political, professional or civic relations. The history of the past is the history of the few; the history of the present is the history of the many "who by head or hand, force of character

or high attainment have made themselves centers or sources of influence in their respective communities." These biographies taken together make a complete history of a county, political, social, commercial and industrial.

Montgomery county occupies an important and honorable position in the "Keystone State" of this great republic, and demands the best work upon the part of historian, biographer and publisher. Neither time, labor or expense has been spared in the preparation of this volume, and it is placed before the public with the belief that it will be found equal to any work of similar character published in this country. The development and progress of Montgomery county is not due to any particular race, but is the combined result of the brain and brawn of all the nationalities whose home has been within her borders, since the days of Quaker settlement and English colonization on the banks of the Delaware.

The geology given is mainly taken from the volumes of the Second Geological Survey of Pennsylvania; the mineralogy has been compiled from Prof. O. C. S. Carter's description of the minerals of the county; while the notice of vegetable and animal life is condensed from the articles on each by Dr. P. Y. Eisenberg and William J. Buck, the historian.

The concise account given of political, judicial, medical, military, journalistic, financial, educational and religious matters, has been carefully compiled from all sources of reliable and accurate information available.

A new and special feature that has been introduced is that of the appendix devoted to the prominent dead of the county, whose worthy careers entitle them to ample space and distinguished mention.

Produced by a vast amount of careful and diligent labor, this cyclopedia supplies a general and permanent want, and contains no information that will become obsolete through the advance of knowledge. It seeks to preserve all of value in the past, and yet includes the men and women who are performing the work, and moulding the present thought of the county in its every line of progress and development.

THE PUBLISHERS.

HISTORICAL SKETCH
OF
MONTGOMERY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA.

CHAPTER I.

GEOGRAPHY, GEOLOGY, BOTANY AND ZOOLOGY. BOUNDARIES AND AREA—TOPOGRAPHY—TERRITORIAL CHANGES—GEOGRAPHICAL POSITION—GEOLOGICAL STRUCTURE—MINERALOGY—ZOOLOGY.

WHILE it is not within the scope of a work of this character to give a complete or extended history of Montgomery county, yet the publishers have deemed it most essential to make a brief presentation of the most important events of the history and development of the county before proceeding to record the biographical sketches of its useful and leading citizens.

Boundaries and Area.—MONTGOMERY COUNTY, Pennsylvania, is the ninth in order of age of the sixty-seven counties of the Keystone State, is in the southeastern or garden part of the Commonwealth, and lies between the fortieth and forty-first degrees of north latitude, and the seventy-fifth and seventy-sixth degrees of west longitude from Greenwich, England, or the first and second degrees of east longitude from Washington city. As a political division of the State, Montgomery county is bounded on the north-east by Lehigh and Bucks counties; on the south-east by Philadelphia county; on the south-west by Delaware and Chester counties; and on the north-west by Berks county. According to "Smull's Legislative Hand Book," the county contains four hundred and eighty-four (484) square miles, or three hundred and nine thousand seven hundred and sixty (309,760) acres. The territory of the county was organized as a part of Philadelphia, one of three original counties established by Penn in 1682, and continued as such until September 10, 1784, when it was organized under the name of Montgomery county.

There are three theories for the origin of the name of the county; first, that it was named for Montgomeryshire, Wales; second, that it was to commemorate the name of the lamented General Montgomery, who fell at Quebec; and third, that it was in the honor of Joseph and William Montgomery, who were then members of the Pennsylvania legislature and worked hard for the passage of the bill creating the county. "It is possible that the Montgomerys' of the assembly anticipated the natural wishes of the Welsh, and utilized the name of General Montgomery with that of their own."

In geographical position, Montgomery county is one of the south-eastern counties of Pennsylvania, while its geographical center and center of population are not a great distance apart, and both are said to be in the neighborhood of Centre Point, in Worcester township.

The county is in the Seventh Congressional district, composed of the counties of

Bucks and Montgomery; while within itself it constitutes the Twelfth Senatorial and Thirty-eighth Judicial districts, and is entitled to five members in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives.

Topography.—The surface of Montgomery county is undulating and hilly, while its soil is good and very productive. It is well watered, and in the past was well wooded with oak, hickory and chestnut, which have been largely cut away for fuel, charcoal, lime-burning and to supply the Philadelphia markets. Well defined ranges of hills run from north-east to south-west. In the south-eastern portion of the county are the Gulf, Barren and Chelten hills; and in the central part are the Providence and Skippack hills; and in the northern part are the prominent, rugged and somewhat mountainous Stone Hills. The Schuykill, Plymouth and Perkiomen valleys are very fertile, while the large areas of rolling lands drained by the Wissahickon creek, Indian Swamp and Manatawny creeks, are highly productive. The entire county is a rolling country of hill and dale, with rich farms, good roads, comfortable dwellings and fine residences.

The general drainage of the county is to the southeast by the Schuylkill river and its tributaries, of which latter the principal ones in Montgomery are, Perkiomen, Stony and Wissahickon creeks. Skillful engineers who have examined the Upper Perkiomen valley, state that its elevation and volume of water are sufficient to make a great reservoir that could supply the city of Philadelphia with pure water for a century to come.

Geology.—The geological structure of Pennsylvania is complicated in form and various of quality and age. The great subterranean floor of Pennsylvania formed of granite, gneiss, mica, slate and marble, lies from one to twenty thousand feet beneath the present surface, and contains vast deposits of iron. These great floor rocks were originally sandstone and limestone, but were changed into granite and gneiss, mica, slate, and marble, by pressure, heat and chemical action.

Prof. J. P. Lesley gives the following characteristic sketch of Montgomery county in the Second Geological Survey of Pennsylvania: "The geology of this county is the same as that of Bucks county, between which and the Schuylkill it lies, with a length of thirty-eight (38) miles (along its northeast line) and an average breadth of sixteen (16) miles (along its northwest line). Two of its townships, Upper and Lower Merion, lie on the west side of the river. Philadelphia city (once county) is cut out of its southern corner. Four-fifths of the county has a surface of Mesozoic (New Red Trias) soft red shale and Sandstone dipping gently northward. A ridge of greenstone trap in Marlboro township is gapped at Sumneytown by a branch of the Perkiomen, the main creek flowing (south) past the west end of the dyke at Green Lane. Another small hill of trap rises one mile north of Pottstown. The North Penn railroad tunnel at Gwynedd cuts trap in the hill. The villages of Morgan Hill, Sorrel Horse, Dreshertown, Fort Washington, Hickorytown and Plymouth mark the line of the south edge of the New Red, where the Potsdam quartzite No. 1 (North Valley Hill rock of Chester county) comes out from under it, in a series of diagonal (anticlinal) ridges, with basins of Chester county limestone No. 11 between them. The Chester county valley heads up eastward through Upper Merion and Whitemarsh township.

The southern edge of the limestone No. II crosses the Schuylkill at Conshohocken, and runs past the marble quarries, Marble Hall, and the north corner of Cheltenham township to a point two miles east of Pinetown. The narrow southern outcrop of No. I runs alongside of the limestone from Conshohocken eastward to within a mile of Sorrel Horse. A narrow belt of the South Valley Hill slate runs from Conshohocken westward as a continuation of the belt of No. I. South of this slate and south of the outcrop of No. I, all across the county, runs a belt of the older gneiss, bordered on the south by the Chestnut Hill and Edge Hill line of garnetiferous and serpentine-bearing schists. Three lines of serpentine outcrop cross Merion, one of them at Merion Square, the two a mile and two miles north of it. From Jenkintown eastward Edge Hill carries the famous *eurite* or *itacolumite* outcrop, which has been assigned to the Potsdam formation No. I."

The following formations and deposits exist within the county: River mud, Trenton gravel, red and yellow clay and gravel, Bryn Mawr gravel, trap, mesozoic, serpentine, Chestnut Hill and garnetiferous schists, Philadelphia and Manayunk schists, South Valley hill slate, Potsdam sandstone or Edge Hill rock, and syenite and granites supposed to be laurentian.

Mineralogy. — The precious minerals have been found in Montgomery county, but not in sufficient quantities to pay for working. Traces of gold are found in the azoic rocks and in the Delaware river sands. In one reported case a hundred pounds of gravel yielded nearly twenty-seven cents worth of gold. Traces of silver associated with argentiferous galenite was found some years ago at the Ecton mine at Shannonville. Copper veins exist near Shannonville, and in Upper Salford township, and are also found about one and a half miles below Norristown. Near Shannonville, Stephen Girard sunk a shaft on the copper vein, but did not obtain ore in paying quantities. Others sunk shafts with no better results, and the Ecton and Perkiomen mines were worked at different times from 1829 to 1858, but never more than paid expenses. In one year there were taken from the last named mines five hundred and twenty-four (524) tons of copper, worth nearly thirty-one thousand dollars ($31,000), and it is claimed that under a more economical management the returns would have yielded a profit. Lead ores are found in slight quantities associated with the copper ores. Slight traces of tin are found in Franconia township, where it exists in its native state in a gold-bearing gravel. Thin veins of coal from one to two inches in thickness and limited to very small areas are found in different localities of the county, but no larger or heavier veins have ever been discovered. Graphite exists near Henderson's Station.

The more common and more useful minerals of the county are clay, kaolin, glass sand, limestone, marble, iron ore, and building rock.

The clay beds are in the limestone belt, and are principally found in Springfield, Whitemarsh, Plymouth and Upper Merion townships. The most important kaolin bed is about two and a half miles from Conshohocken, and in Plymouth township. It was opened in 1877, and yields a white pottery clay, a red terra cotta clay, and a blue fire brick clay much used at the Albertson Star glass works, at Norristown. Fine white glass sand is found near many of the kaolin deposits. The Montgomery limestone valley commences in Abington township and

widening out passes through Cheltenham, Whitemarsh, Springfield, Upper Dublin, Plymouth and Upper Merion townships into Chester county, where it is known as Chester valley. Most of the limestones in the Montgomery valley are highly magnesian. Immense quantities of lime have been burned in this valley for building and agricultural purposes, and for shipment to Philadelphia and other cities. As early as 1840 the value of the lime burned in the county was over a quarter of a million dollars. The earliest mention of lime burning in the county was in 1686, when Madam Farmer, of Whitemarsh township, offered to sell ten thousand 10,000 bushels at six pence per bushel. The lime used in the building of the old State house at Philadelphia was hauled from the Ryner Tyson kilns, in Abington township. The limestone area is between fifteen (15) and twenty (20) square miles, and its main shipping points are Norristown, Port Kennedy, and Swedesburg. At Ambler Station, epsom salts and various other magnesia compounds are manufactured from these limestones. Marble, which is but limestone crystallized by extreme heat, exists in large quantities in the Montgomery valley. Nearly all the quarries are open on the southern edge of the limestone belt. The Marble Hall quarries, the largest in the county, were opened over a hundred years ago, and furnished the white marble used in building the Washington monument, at the national capitol. Marble Hall quarries contain the only vein of statuary marble found in the county. Other leading and important quarries are, Spring Mill, Hitner's, Henderson's, Graver's, Corson's, Williams', Smith's, Phipps', Coxe's, Ramsey's, Marple's, Leedom's, O'Brien's, Derr's, and the different Rambo quarries near Swedesburg. The Derr quarries furnished the marble for the Norristown court-house, and the William Rambo marble quarries at Swedesburg, have large lime-kilns connected with them.

The princial iron-ores of the county are: Magnetic, red hematite, brown hematite, spathic or siderite, titanic, and chromic. There are no large beds of magnetic iron-ore in the county. The brown hematite is a common ore in the limestone belt, occurring in clay deposits, from which thousands of tons have been mined. The Edge Hill blast furnace used this ore extensively. The red hematite is found in several parts of the iron-ore belt, and is sometimes discovered in connection with the brown hematite. Traces of spathic and titanic iron-ores have been reported as found in some of the townships, but the brown hematite is the abundant and representative iron-ore of Montgomery county. The main building rocks of the county are marble, red sandstone, syenite and granitic. Marble, the most important rock, is largely used in public and private buildings and weathers better in the country than in a city. The new red sandstone, quarries of which are worked in nearly every township, is coming into general use, as it weathers far better than Potsdam sandstone, that was once quite popular. There are extensive beds of syenite and granitic rocks in the county, that in time will furnish large quantities of a good, strong, medium grade building stone.

Botany.—The first description and catalogue of the plants of Montgomery county was made by Dr. P. Y. Eisenberg, and is given in Bean's history of the county. Dr. Eisenberg classifies over seven hundred species of phænogamous or flowering plants; and thirty-three species of the cryptogamous or flowerless plants. Dr. Eisenberg was unable to make his catalogue full and complete, but it is a work of great value and

will make highly interesting the study of the plant-life of the county.

Zoology.—The zoology or animal life of Montgomery county so far has received its fullest treatment at the hands of William J. Buck, whose catalogue of quadrupeds contains thirty-five species, embracing eight kinds of bats, three of shrews, five of squirrels and seven of rats. The other species are the wild cat, red fox, weasel, mink, otter, skunk, raccoon, and opossum.

Mr. Buck's ornithological catalogue includes two hundred and thirty-two species of birds and embraces thirteen kinds of hawks, two of eagles, eight of owls, two of cuckoos, eight of woodpeckers, six of swallows, nine of fly-catchers, four of thrushes, twenty-one of warblers, eight of wrens, ten of sparrows, seven of herons, three of plover, five of snipe, five of sandpipers, four of rails, fifteen of ducks, three of geese, three of gulls, three of grebes, two of black birds, two of crows, two of orioles, two of robins. It also includes the turkey buzzard, humming bird, whip-poor-will, king-fisher, pewee, blue bird, great shrike or butcher bird, gray creeper, nuthatch, red bird, yellow bird, linnet, finch, indigo bird, cow bird, meadow lark, wild pigeon, turtle dove, pheasant, partridge, snake driver, kill-deer, turn stone, swan, coot, loon and pelican.

The reptile by Mr. Buck's catalogue number thirty-three species, of which the rattlesnake and copperhead, fast disappearing, are the most dangerous. He gives a dozen kinds of snakes, eight of turtles, eight of frogs, two of lizards, and six of salamanders.

Twenty-five species constitute Mr. Buck's catalogue of fishes, among which are sunfish, bass, perch, trout, chub, roach, sucker, catfish, carp, eel and lamprey.

With the geography of the county all are well acquainted, and the First and Second Geological Surveys of Pennsylvania have done much toward giving the history of its geology and mineralogy, yet there is much to be learned about its geological structure and the extent of its minerals, while its botany and zoology are fields in which many future discoveries await the ardent and painstaking student.

CHAPTER II.

EARLY SETTLEMENTS AND PERIODS OF DEVELOPMENT. PRE-HISTORIC INHABITATION —MOUND BUILDERS—INDIAN TRIBES—INDIAN PURCHASES— DEVELOPMENT PERIODS.

NO GRANDER page in the history of the new world will ever be written than that of Swedish settlement and Quaker colonization on the Delaware, for each was projected in the interests of religious freedom, and the latter was also the exponent of universal peace in a time when Europe was ruled by might and war was the arbitrament of all national controversies.

The history of the founding of the Keystone State is a long and interesting one from the discovery of the Delaware by the Dutch, to the planting of New Sweden and its absorption in the colony of Penn. Two hundred sixty-two years ago the mighty Gustavus Adolphus, wearied with war and religious strife, sought to found in the new world, a great empire where political and religious freedom should prevail. But his death at Lutzen, left to other hands a half century later, the founding of this grand ideal State, and upon the weak and feeble New Sweden of the warrior monarch was planted the strong, prosperous and peaceful Quaker province of William Penn, which developed into the present powerful and populous "Keystone State" of the American Union.

William Penn, the "Quaker King," in founding the province of Pennsylvania, not only provided an asylum for the persecuted of his day, but laid broad and deep the foundations of popular power, free government and a lofty civilization, and contributed in a large degree, to the birth of a nation whose magnificent progress has been the wonder of the world, and whose future career will largely control the destinies of the human race.

No more truthful epitaph is recorded of any benefactor of the human race than that which is inscribed to William Penn on a tablet in the old State House at Philadelphia, and reads: "William Penn, born in London, October 14th, 1644, laid the foundations of universal liberty, A. D. 1682, in the privileges he then accorded the emigrants to Pennsylvania and thus enabled their descendants to make the colony the Keystone State of the Federal Union in 1789."

Pre-Historic Inhabitation. — Before proceeding to treat of the early settlement of the county by the whites, it will be necessary to make brief mention of the pre-historic inhabiting races, the Mound-builders and the Indians. For the rude objects of ancient art are mute witnesses of a period of human existence back of the scope of written records, and supply the long-sought means of tracing man from almost his first appearance in the world down through his conquests over nature to the time when history takes up the thread of his career. The pre-historic is separated in the United States from the historic by the discovery of America by Columbus, so that

whatever here is ante-Columbian is also pre-historic.

Mound Builders.— The Mound-builders, so named on account of the earth-mounds which they erected all over the Mississippi valley, are claimed to have penetrated as far east as the Delaware river, but there are no written accounts of any temple, altar, effigy, or tomb mound ruins existing in Montgomery county at the time of its settlement by the whites. Of the Mound-builders' fate we have nothing but Indian traditions which are unreliable. The Indians claimed to have driven them out of the country, which is hardly probable, as a numerous semi-civilized race would hardly be vanquished by an inferior race of no greater numbers. Whether famine, fever or war wasted the Mound-builders, or they were attracted by sunnier skies to Mexico or Peruvian lands, none can tell.

Indian Tribes.— The successor of the Mound-builder was the Indian, of whose origin nothing certain is known. Two of the eight great Indian families of the United States were the Algonquins stretching from Virginia to New England, and the Huron-Iriquois, whose most powerful confederation was the Iriquois or famous Six Nations of Central New York. The Six Nations were the most intelligent, advanced and ferocious of all the Indian nations, and were bound together in a confederacy that in some respects resembled our federal union. In each nation were eight tribes arranged in two divisions, as follows:

Wolf,	Bear,	Beaver,	Turtle,
Deer,	Snipe,	Heron,	Hawk.

In this manner was constructed the Tribal League of the Hodenosaunee or Six Nations, which forms "an enduring monument to that proud and progressive race, who reared under its protection, a wide spread Indian Sovereignty."

The Algonquin family was divided into several nations, one of which was the Lenni Lenape or Delaware nation, whose tribes inhabited the larger part of the territory of Pennsylvania. The Delaware nation was divided into three branches, the Turtle, Turkey and Monsey or Wolf tribes.

The territory of Montgomery county was occupied by several of the Monsey or Wolf tribes, whose names if ever known by the first settlers were allowed to perish by the earlier historians. No account can be found at this late day of their trails and war paths which were in daily use when the early settlers came into the county. These Wolf tribes were tennants at will of the Six Nations and had numerous camping places and villages, especially along the streams, of which there is neither record nor tradition, except that a village was near the junction of Elliot's run and the Schuylkill river. Indian axes, arrow-heads, tomahawks, pipes, knives, spear-heads, pestles and other stone weapons and implements, have been found in large quantities in different townships. On the Webster farm in Horsham township, is the "Indian Spring," near which tradition asserts that the Indians had a camping place. The history of the Indian tribes of the county would have made an interesting chapter if it had been secured and preserved in Montgomery as it has been in some other counties of the State.

Indian Purchases.—The territory of Montgomery county was purchased by Penn and his agents from the Indians at the following dates: On June 25, 1683, of Wingebone, for his lands on the west side of the Schuylkill up from the lower falls; July 14, 1683, of Secane and Idquoquehan and others,

for lands between the Schuylkill and Chester rivers up as far as Conshohocken Hill; also July 14, 1683, of Neneshickan, Malebore, Neshanocke and Oscreneon, for lands between the Schuylkill and Pennepack as far northwest as Edge Hill; June 3, 1684, of Maughongsink, for lands along the Perkiomen creek; on June 7, 1684, of Mettamicnot, to lands along the Pennepack; on July 30, 1685, of Shakhoppa, Secane, Malebore and Tangoras, to lands between Chester and Pennepack creeks to the northwest for two full days journey; and July 5, 1697, Tanamy, Weheeland, Wehequeekhon, Gaqueekhon and Quenamockquid, sold their lands between the Pennepack and Neshaminy creeks, and thus was extinguished the Indian title to the entire county. Of the sixteen Indian chieftains, or men of note, who made these land sales to Penn, we do not know how many of them resided on the territory of the county or to what tribes they belonged. The Indians retired from Montgomery county as the white settlers came into its territory, but at what time the last of them left or where they went, past history and tradition are alike—silent.

Pioneer Races.—The pioneer races in the settlement of the territory of Montgomery county in order of age, were the Welsh, English, German, Swede and Scotch-Irish. Although the territory of the county was pretty fully explored and parts of it regularly traveled from 1640 to 1680 by the Swedes, Dutch and English, successively in the prosecution of the beaver trade, yet their journeys were by means of canoe, and the reports of these traders caused no emigration up the Schuylkill beyond the site of Philadelphia. Penn's purchase probably led to the settlement of the county twenty-five years earlier than it would have been accomplished by the slow northward extension of the Upland colony, at the present city of Chester, in Delaware county.

The Welsh were the first to become permanent residents, and Edward Jones, "chirurgeon," is entitled to the honor of being the first settler of Montgomery county, his settlement being made near the site of Libertyville, in Lower Merion township, August 18, 1682. The Welsh had purchased forty thousand acres of land of Penn before he left England. These Welsh purchasers were from Haverfordshire, Shropshire, and Cheshire, Wales, and a part of their tract, which they intended to become a municipality, was in Lower and Upper Merion townships. In Lower Merion Dr. Thomas Wynne, father-in-law of Edward Jones, settled in 1682, and the next year came John Roberts, who erected the third mill in the province. Following Roberts came John Thomas, Hugh Roberts, Rowland Ellis, Robert Jones, John Cadwallader, Benjamin Humphreys, Robert and Thomas Owen, and others. The Welsh settled rapidly in Upper Merion, where they numbered two-thirds of the thirty-two taxables returned in 1734. They also were numerous among the early settlers of Gwynedd, Montgomery and Plymouth, but the Merion townships seemed to have been the centre of their settlement. They were principally Friends, and in Lower Merion, in 1695, built the first church in the county. In 1734 there were one hundred and eighty-one (181) Welsh in the seven hundred and sixty (760) taxables of the county, but the tide of emigration from Wales declined rapidly from the time religious persecution ceased in that country. The Welsh were an intelligent, energetic and enterprising people, who made the best of citizens, and their descendants today are among the most substantial and

progressive men and women of the county.

The second race element in order of settlement was the English. The pioneer English settler seems to have been Toby Leech, from Cheltenham, in Gloucestershire, England, who in the latter part of 1682, settled on Tacony creek, in what is now Cheltenham township, and built a grist mill and tannery. Following Leech into Cheltenham township, came Richard Wall, Patrick Robinson, John West, John Day, Nehemiah Mitchell, William Brown, Everard Bolton, John Ashmead, John Russell, Mary Jefferson, Thomas Phillips, and William Frampton. In 1684, Dr. Nicholas More, from London, settled on the manor of Moreland, and the next year Mary Farmer and her family made the first settlement in Whitemarsh. About 1685, John Barnes settled in Abington, and some time later Thomas Palmer and Thomas Eredell settled in Horsham. About 1685, James Fox, Richard Grove, Francis Rawle, and John Chelson, all from Plymouth, England, settled in Plymouth township. Edward Lane and Joseph Richardson, in 1701, located in Providence. In 1734 there were twenty-four English taxables in Abington; forty-seven in Moreland; twenty-three in Whitemarsh; fifteen in Upper Dublin; and nine in Springfield; while the total number in the county was one hundred and sixty-three. Mrs. Mary Farmar burnt the first lime from limestone in Pennsylvania, and the English built their first church, Abington Friends' meeting house, in 1697. The English element, principally Friends, were a peaceable, thrifty and law-abiding people, of intelligence, will and fair education.

Succeeding the English came the third inhabiting and most populous pioneer race, the German, which still holds its own in numerical strength in the county. The founding of the Germantown colony opened up the way for German emigration into the territory of Montgomery county. In 1691 naturalization papers were granted to thirty-three Germans, of whom nearly three-fourths became pioneer settlers in the county. In 1702, Matthias Van Bebber purchased a tract of six thousand one hundred and sixty-six acres of land on Skippack creek, and constituting over one-half of the southern part of Perkiomen township. He divided this land into lots, and sold them to actual settlers. Between 1702 and 1709, he made sales to Heinrich Pannebacker, Johannes Kuster, Johannes Umstadt, Claus Jansen, Jan Frey, John Jacobs, Edward Beer, Gerhard and Herman Indehoffen, Dirck Renberg, William Renberg, William and Cornelius Dewes, Herman Custer, Christopher Zimmerman, Johannes Scholl, Daniel Desmond, Jacob Johannes, Martin Kolb, and John Strayer. The Germans were the pioneer settlers of Perkiomen, Towamencin, Upper and Lower Salford, Hatfield, Franconia, Frederick, Marlborough, New and Upper Hanover, and Douglass townships, and a few of their number were Hollanders. By 1734, the German element of population had increased so rapidly that three hundred and ninety-five of the seven hundred and sixty taxables of the county were Germans. The first protest against negro slavery was by German Friends at Germantown, and had such an effect on their race that Germans held but few slaves in Montgomery or any other county of the state. The Germans founded the Mennonite, Lutheran, Reformed, Dunkard and Schwenkenfelder churches in the county. The Germans were honest, industrious and frugal, and soon became prosperous and influential.

The Swedish element of population dates

back to about 1712, and in 1734 was confined to Upper Merion township, where in the last named year the names of Mats Holstein, Peter Yocum, and Mounce, John, Gabriel and Elias Rambo appear on the list of taxables. The earliest settled race on the Delaware, they were nearly the last to come into Montgomery county. Peter Cox seems to have been the first Swedish settler and purchasing his land as early as 1702. The Swedes were a pious, industrious and thrifty people.

The fifth pioneer race was the hardy, conscientious and aggressive Scotch-Irish, who came into the eastern part of the county some time after 1715 and in 1734 numbered some sixteen or seventeen taxables only.

After the Scotch-Irish came it is said that a small number of French and also of Irish came into the county between 1734 and 1742.

The Germans, including a small number of Hollanders, had settled in the northern and western parts of Montgomery county, the Welsh and English occupied the southern and central parts, while the Swedes had located in the southern part, and the Scotch-Irish and French were scattered in the eastern part from the Delaware westward to the center.

Development Periods.—The record of Montgomery county's progress and development, from its pioneer days to its present moment of existence, is one of worth and honor and of substantial prosperity. While this progress has not been phenomenal in character, yet it has been solid and substantial and the county ranks favorably to-day with the old and progressive counties of the middle Atlantic States.

Montgomery county has passed several consecutive periods of development that have been differently named by different authors. The history of the county may be divided into the following eleven periods, of which the two war periods are not properly development periods and will be treated of in the military chapter:

1. Pioneer Period—1682 to 1742.
2. Backwoods Period—1742 to 1775.
3. Revolutionary Period—1775 to 1783.
4. Pike Period—1783 to 1812.
5. War of 1812 Period—1812 to 1814.
6. Canal Period—1814 to 1826.
7. Early Manufacturing Period—1826 to 1834.
8. Early Railroad Period—1834 to 1861.
9. Civil War Period—1861 to 1865.
10. Improvement Period—1865 to 1876.
11. Progressive Period—1876 to ——

The Pioneer Period, sixty years in duration, was one of privation and much suffering. There were no grist mills for nearly twenty (20) years, and then only four seemed to have been built during the remaining forty (40) years of the period. The log cabin and the small clearing were prominent landmarks from 1682 to 1742, yet frame houses were being built, small farms cleared out, and twenty-five (25) townships had been organized, while four (4) grist mills had been built and fifteen (15) churches were erected. The matter of most public interest during this period was the fish dam war on the Schuylkill river between the shoremen and the farmers who carried their grain to Philadelphia in canoes. These canoes often upset in being forced over or through the dams and their cargoes were lost. Victory finally declared for the farmers in 1738, when the sheriffs of Chester and Philadelphia counties caused the fish dam to be removed from the river. One of the most important events of this period was the erection of Green Lane forge in 1733, twenty miles north of the site of Norristown and on the waters of Perkiomen creek. This forge was built by Thomas Mayburry, and the pig-iron for its use was

brought from Durham furnace. The forge was chiefly worked by negroes for several years.

The second or Backwoods Period extended from the year 1742 to the opening of the Revolutionary war thirty years later. Farms were increasing in number and in size, but the larger part of the land was still in woods. Frame and stone houses were rapidly succeeding the log cabins, and every community was being connected by dirt roads. Over twenty (20) grist mills were built, eighteen churches erected and old Mount Joy or Valley Forge was built (1751) on the waters of Valley creek. The three main events of this period were the commencement of town growth in 1753 when John Potts laid out Pottstown; the introduction of stage coach travel in September, 1763, by George Klein, on the "King's Highway" or the old Bethlehem road between Philadelphia and Bethlehem; the observation of the transit of Venus in 1769, at the Norristown observatory by the celebrated David Rittenhouse.

The Revolutionary war came in 1775, and interrupted the development of the territory of the county. At its close commenced the Pike Period, which continued till the commencement of the war of 1812. The earliest notable events in this period were the county formation and the laying out of its seat of justice by the name of Norristown. About the same time, if not really earlier, Isaac and David Potts built the second Valley Forge. Better houses and churches were being built, subscription schools were opened and farms increased in size. But improved highways were the demand of the day. An attempted canal had failed, and the people needed good roads for travel and to transport their farm products to market. The old dirt roads were not fit, and the Lancaster turnpike, the first macademized road in America, was commenced in 1792, and completed in 1794 from Philadelphia to Lancaster at a cost of seven thousand, five hundred dollars ($7500) per mile. Four and one-half miles of this pike were in Montgomery county. The Lancaster turnpike was followed by the Germantown and Perkiomen turnpike, built between 1801 and 1804, on the Reading road for twenty-five (25) miles at a cost of over eleven thousand dollars ($11,000) per mile. The Cheltenham and Willow Grove turnpike was next in order of age, being built in 1803 and 1804, and had a length of eleven miles, costing eighty-eight thousand dollars ($88,000). The third pike was the Chestnut Hill and Spring House, on the Bethlehem road, and whose length of eight miles cost over seventy-five thousand dollars ($75,000). The last pikes commenced in this period were the Perkiomen and Reading and the Ridge; the one twenty-nine miles and the other twenty-four miles in length. In the latter part of this period several lines of stages were running through the county, and substantial stone bridges were taking the places of old wooden ones. The Perkiomen stone bridge built in 1798 cost sixty thousand dollars ($60,000,) and the Pottstown stone bridge was completed in 1805 at a cost of thirty-five thousand dollars ($35,000). During the Pike Period two post-offices were established in the county, the first one at Pottstown in 1793, and the second one at Norristown about 1798 or 1799. The first newspaper, *The Norristown Gazette*, made its appearance in 1799. The close of the period found Montgomery county pretty well recovered from the effect of the Revolutionary struggle, and the war of 1812 that followed checked but did not materially retard the development of the county.

The Canal Period that followed the war

of 1812 and extending from 1814 to 1826, was a period during which turnpikes were still built and heavy substantial bridges thrown over many streams, but the main theme of public interest was the construction of canals as cheaper routes to market than the turnpikes were. In 1792 a company was incorporated to construct a canal from Norristown to Philadelphia, and two companies commenced the work but failed in 1794, after spending nearly half a million dollars. In 1811 the companies were united as the Union Canal company, and in 1821 commenced work on the abandoned canal whose line was re-located and finished in 1826. The canal was carried to the Susquehanna river, leaving the Schuylkill four miles below Reading, in Berks county, while the Schuylkill Navigation Company carried the north branch of the canal from up the Schuylkill and to Port Carbon on Mill Creek in Schuylkill county. Packet boats were put on the canal in 1825, carrying passengers as far south as Pawling's bridge in this county; but in the succeeding year the packet boat "*Planet*" commenced making regular trips from Reading to Philadelphia. In the commencement of this period the first banking institution was opened at Norristown in 1814 under the name of the bank of Montgomery County. And at Norristown, toward the close of the period, the first secret society was organized in 1823. This organization was Charity Masonic Lodge, No. 190.

The opening of the Canal was succeeded by the Early Manufacturing Period, which was short, being of only eight years duration, commencing in 1826 and closing in 1834. During this period all the material interests of the county were progressive, and to manufactures public attention was directed as much, if not more than any other industry. In 1820 there were two cotton factories and four fulling mills, whose date of establishment cannot be obtained. During this period, ten hatteries, two forges, two trip-hammers, seven naileries, two gun manufactories, thirty tanneries, twenty-four flax-seed oil mills, sixty-three distilleries, one carriage factory, fifteen paper mills, five gun powder mills, ninety-seven grist mills, thirty-three lime-kilns, four brick-kilns and four marble yards were in operation. Toward the close of the period, the Corliss iron works were established at Conshohocken.

The next development period was the Early Railroad Period commencing in 1834 and terminating in 1861, with the opening of the late Civil war. Progress in every line moved forward during this period and several large furnaces and iron-works were erected, while the first agricultural and the present county medical societies were formed. But a new factor in material progress now appeared in the railroad and gave name to the period in which it took travel and freight alike from pike and canal, and inaugurated the great change which it wrought later in State and national development. The Philadelphia, Germantown and Norristown railroad was formally opened to Norristown on Friday, August 14, 1835, amid great rejoicings. The second railroad to pass through the county was the Philadelphia and Reading, which was opened from Reading to Pottstown about 1840 and completed to Philadelphia in 1842. The North Pennsylvania railroad, the last road built in this period, was opened July 7, 1857, from Philadelphia to Bethlehem. Further railroad building was interrupted by the commencement of the late Civil war.

Succeeding the Civil war came the tenth

historical or eighth development period which may be fitly termed the Improvement Period, extending from the close of the war to the time of the Centennial year. In those eleven years the county fully recovered from the effects of the war. New furnaces and rolling mills were built, six railways were constructed, and farm machinery was largely introduced throughout the county. Invention and machinery were adding to the products and the comforts of the people, and improvement was everywhere discernible, from the farm, mine and factory, to the shop, counting-room and school house. The use of the telegraph and telephone, the introduction of labor-saving machinery and the invention of the phonograph distinguished the closing years of this period and were prophetic of a wonderful future.

The Centennial year of the nation was likewise the initial year of a Progressive Period in Montgomery county, whose terminal boundary line lies hid in the future. The Centennial exhibition had something to do with hastening this period by some years. The hundreds from the county who visited that great exhibition and witnessed the wonderful exhibits in every department of industry, came back with new ideas of progress whose consummation, aided by improved labor-saving machinery, has placed Montgomery in the front rank of the progressive counties of the state.

Tasteful residences and beautiful farms, fine school buildings and splendid church edifices, good roads, first-class railways and electric street cars are distinguishing features of the progressive present; while the full development and the ultimate supremacy of its greatest inventions will only be attained in the twentieth Century, when the present railways may be succeeded by air ship lines that have successfully solved the problem of aerial navigation.

CHAPTER III.

LEADING INDUSTRIES. IRON MANUFACTURE—TEXTILE FABRICS—PAPER—MINOR INDUSTRIES.

AGRICULTURE is the earliest and main occupation of a people during a pioneer period, and the first developed industry of the mineral counties of Pennsylvania was the manufacture of Iron.

Iron Manufacture. — In Montgomery county iron-works were established at Valley Forge as early as 1750. These works were burned by the British in 1777, and new works were afterward built by the Potts family. Other iron works were erected in the county, but in 1820 there were only two forges, two trip hammers and seven naileries in Montgomery county. Sixty-four years later there were a large number of furnaces, rolling mills and steel works. The blast furnaces were: Plymouth, built in 1843; Merion and Elizabeth furnaces, erected at West Conshohocken, in 1847; Swede, 1850; William Penn, 1854; Montgomery, at Port Kennedy, 1854; Anvil, Pottstown, 1867; Edgehill, 1869; Norristown, 1869; Warwick, Pottstown, 1875, and Lucinda, at Norristown. The rolling mills and steel works were: Conshohocken iron works, commenced in 1832; Norristown iron works, 1846; Pottstown iron works, 1846; Stony Creek rolling mill, 1849; Pen Coyd iron works, 1852; Pottstown Iron Company's works, 1863; Glasgow iron works, 1874; Plymouth rolling mill, 1881: Longmead iron works, 1882, and Ellis and Lessig's rolling mill, at Pottstown, in 1884. The Schuylkill iron works at Conshohocken were built in 1858, and the Standard Iron Company's works at Norristown were erected during the previous year. The value of the products of the nineteen iron and steel establishments in 1880 was over seven million dollars.

Textile Fabrics —The manufacture of textile fabrics was commenced at an early day, and in 1810, besides ten thousand looms and three hundred carding machines in operation, there were two cotton manufacturing establishments in the county, and the value of all kinds of cloth woven in 1810 was nearly one hundred thousand dollars. Seventy years later, Montgomery county had seven cotton goods, nine mixed textile and fourteen woolen goods establishments, the combined value of whose products was nearly six million dollars. One of the oldest cotton mills in the State is Simpson's, of Norristown, built in 1826 by Bernard Mc Creedy. Among other cotton mills in the county are Hunter's, at Norristown, built in 1836; Merion mills, 1836; Washington or Watts', built in 1849, as Moy Craig mill; Conshohocken mills, 1856; Ford Street mills, Norristown, 1856; Albion Print works, 1865, and Jones mill, which was opened before 1880. The Fairview cotton mills were started in 1825 and burned in 1884. Many cotton mills were partly turned into woolen mills The Valley Forge woolen mills, now idle, were started in 1810 as a cotton mill by James Rogers. Of woolen and yarn mills, Worrall and Ratcliff's woolen mills were started about 1861, when

the Rose Glen mill also went into operation; Bullocks, 1863; Lee's carpet mills, 1864; New Union, 1870, and Smith's 1883.

Paper.—The earliest authentic mention that we have of a paper mill was of the Langstroth paper mill, built on the Pennypack in Moreland township. This mill was built in 1794, by Thomas Langstroth, and burned in 1809. Some claim the old Dave paper mill of Lower Merion township was older than the Langstroth mill. The Rockhill or old Scheetz mill was built in 1798 in Lower Merion, producing hand made paper for many years. The Riverside paper mill in Whitemarsh township was started in 1856, and produces fine book, card and envelope paper. In 1860, the Rudolph or Ashland dyewood mills were changed into a paper mill, whose product is newspaper material. Ten years later the Rebecca manilla paper mills of Bridgeport were started, and in 1884 Cox and Dagers built the present Norristown manilla paper mill. The manufactured products of the six paper mills in the county in 1880 was over half a million dollars.

Minor Industries.—One of the most important and largest of the minor industries of Montgomery county is that of the manufacture of agricultural implements. David S. Heebner commenced the manufacture of farm machinery upon a very small scale in 1840, and since then the business has grown into large proportions at several places in the county. The Heebner Agricultural works of Lansdale were started in 1862, and fourteen years later the Ellis Keystone Agricultural works of Pottstown were established. About 1848 Harper's Hoe and Rake works were started, and two years later the Rittenhouse foundry and machine works made a specialty of heavy farm machinery work. The latest improved farm and agricultural machinery of all kinds is made in Montgomery county, and shipped to all parts of the civilized world. In 1880, the thirteen agricultural implement establishments of the county had an output worth nearly a quarter of a million dollars.

Another industry worthy of notice is the manufacture of glass, which was never undertaken upon a large scale until 1868. In that year a glass works was started at Norristown, that became the commencement of the present Star Glass plant of that place. In 1884, the Penn glass works were started at Rover's Ford.

The terra cotta industry was introduced in 1856 in Whitemarsh township by the erection of the Scharff Terra Cotta works. Ten years later the Moorhead Terra Cotta works were started in the same township. Among other industries in the county may be mentioned those of lumber, brick and tile, leather, fertilizers, marble, lime and building stone. Each of these make respectable showing, while some give indications of future prominence.

One of the later industries of the county is that of dairying, and its products from numerous creameries in different sections find ready sale in the Philadelphia market.

Montgomery exceeds all of its adjoining counties except Philadelphia in the value of its products, which were worth over twenty million dollars in 1880.

Montgomery county will cross the threshold of the twentieth century as one of the leading manufacturing counties of the great manufacturing belt of the United States that stretches on the Atlantic seaboard from Maine to Virginia, and gives promise of leading every other county in the "Keystone State" except Allegheny and Philadelphia, whose great cities alone place them foremost in Pennsylvania manufactures.

CHAPTER IV.

EDUCATIONAL PROGRESS. SUBSCRIPTION SCHOOLS—PUBLIC SCHOOLS—COUNTY INSTITUTE—ACADEMIC SCHOOLS—BUSINESS SCHOOLS—PAROCHIAL SCHOOLS—PENNSYLVANIA FEMALE COLLEGE—URSINUS COLLEGE.

THE CITIZENS of Montgomery county may be justly proud of their public schools, and the excellence of their higher institutions of learning. Of the pioneer schools of the county, considerable information is given by Prof. Abel Rambo, in his centennial historical school sketch. The early school houses were rude round log structures, daubed with clay mortar, where one log was left out for a window which had oiled paper for panes of glass. After the war of 1812 there was an increase in the number of elementary or subscription schools and a steady improvement in school buildings, until the passage of the free school law in 1834.

Public Schools.—Although the law for free schools was passed in 1834, yet it was nineteen years before the last district in Montgomery county accepted the provisions of that law. Since then the growth of the public schools has been steady, alike in the mixed schools of the rural districts and the graded schools of the larger towns.

County Institutes.—A teachers' county association was formed in 1845, and numerous county and local institutes were held up to the passage of the act for county institutes in 1867. The county institutes for the last fifteen years have been made interesting and useful to the public school teachers and all others in attendance during their sessions.

Academic Schools.—The earliest regular academic school in the county, of which there is record, is Washington Hall Collegiate Institute, founded by Henry Prizer, at Trappe, in 1830. In 1849 Prof. Abel Rambo became its principal, and under his administration the institution became very popular. Many of his students now occupy high and honorable positions in life.

The second academic school was Tremount seminary, established in 1844, at Norristown, by the celebrated Rev. Samuel Aaron, A. M., one of the most efficient educators of his day. In 1858, Rev. Aaron left Norristown, and three years later Prof. John W. Loch transferred the De Kalb Street institute to the Tremount seminary buildings, where he conducted an excellent school for over twenty years.

Succeeding Tremount seminary in order of age came Oakland Female institute, founded by Rev. J. Grier Ralston, in 1845, at Norristown. Rev. Ralston was an excellent educator, and the institution was closed in 1881 by the death of its founder, which had occurred in the preceding year.

The fourth academic school was Freeland seminary, established in 1848, by Abraham Hunsicker, and his son, Rev. Henry A. Hunsicker. The seminary continued in active operation from 1848 to 1869 when it was merged into Ursinus college.

Fifth of the academic schools, was Cot-

tage seminary, of Pottstown, founded in 1850, by Rev. William R. Work. It was established for the education of young ladies, and closed its doors in 1881.

The next institution for the education of women was the Montgomery Female institute, of Collegeville. It was organized by Abraham Hunsicker and Prof. J. Warrene Sunderland, in 1851, and two years later was merged into Pennsylvania Female college.

Business Schools.— The Hill school was founded in 1851, by Rev. Matthew Meigs, ex-president of Delaware college, who was succeeded as principal by his son, John Meigs, Ph. D., in 1876. The school property adjoins the borough limits of Pottstown, and its graduates, who sought a collegiate course were always able to enter any college in full standing.

The North Wales academy and School of business was started by Prof. S. U. Brunner, in 1867, at Kulpsville, but four years later was removed to North Wales. Separate academic and commercial departments were established and the institution soon became prosperous.

Parochial Schools —Before the public school system went into general operation, the Lutherans, Mennonites and other religious denominations had separate or parochial schools, whose existence in many instances dated back to the organization of the particular church to which they were attached. There are now in the county two parochial schools; one, St. Patrick's Catholic parochial school at Norristown, and the other, a Catholic parochial school at Conshohocken.

Pennsylvania Female College. — In 1853 this pioneer college for women was organized through the efforts of Prof. J. W. Sutherland, Abraham Hunsicker, and Luannie Sutherland, and has been ever since a potent factor for the intellectual and moral advancement of women. The object of its founders was to aid in starting a work that would go on until "woman would be fully accorded her true position in all the avenues of usefulness, influence and honor consistent with her possibilities in a continental republic resting upon a liberal, intelligent and Christian civilization."

Ursinus College. — Ursinus college was chartered in 1869, and "owes its establishment to the lively interest felt by its founders in the advancement of education in the higher branches of education *upon the basis of Christianity, and with chief regard to religious ends.*" The college bears the name of one of the great reformers of the sixteenth century. Ursinus was the renowned theologian of the Palatinate, Germany, and wrote the larger part of the Heidelberg catechism. Ursinus college, though not under synodical control, yet has the approval of the general synod of the Reformed church of the United States, and endeavors to meet the wants of the age in its educational system by adopting a medium between the abstract ideal and materialistic utilitarian theories.

Rev. J. H. A. Bomberger, the founder of the college, served as its president from 1870 until his death in 1890. During 1891–92, Rev. George W. Williard was acting president, and in 1892 Rev. Henry W. Super was elected president. The Freeland seminary buildings were first used for the college, and in 1872 an east wing was added. In 1892 the Bomberger Memorial hall was completed at a cost of sixty-two thousand dollars ($62,000), and Ursinus college has now ample buildings at Collegeville, to prosecute her future work successfully. In concluding this brief mention of

Ursinus college, whose splendid and useful work has won high commendation, we give an extract from the address of President Super at the dedication of Bomberger Memorial hall, which throws additional light upon the early college history:

"Ursinus College originated in a desire to furnish men for the Christian ministry. Harvard, Yale, Princeton and other colleges were established for the same purpose. To prepare men properly for the ministry, institutions of learning must be established where they can obtain an education in general knowledge and fit themselves for the further and special work of their calling. Hence colleges were appointed for a general purpose. They carry forward and extend the course acquired in the public and high school and prepare the way for the special courses of the university, the medical, law, theological and other departments. The work of the college, of this general character, commends itself to those who do not propose to continue it in one of the professions. All ranks and classes, so far as able, should avail themselves of the college course for the training of the mind and the cultivation of the intellectual powers. This lifts the intelligence and culture of the community and enables men to fulfill the duties of life with greater fidelity and acceptance. All should seek its halls and as few as possible come short of its advantages and benefits. This college may be said to have had its start in a convention of its friends at Myerstown, Pennsylvania, in 1867, aided by the establishment of the Church Monthly, under the editorship of Rev. Dr. Bomberger, in 1868, and the gathering and consultation of a number of clergymen and laymen who then resolved to go forward in the establishment of an institution for the Reformed Church in Eastern Pennsylvania, devoted to the doctrines of the Reformation of the sixteenth century and true to the creed of the noble men who effected that great movement in the progress of religious and civil liberty and in the return to the purity and simplicity of the apostolic times. In 1869 funds were contributed for the purchase of Freeland seminary and for the endowment of at least one chair, that of the presidency. A charter was obtained. A board of directors was chosen. The faculty was selected and the institution fully inaugurated. It opened its doors in the fall of 1870, and immediately met with encouragement. A check was given to its progress, however, by the financial crisis of 1873, which crippled its resources. Nevertheless its friends gathered around it, its students increased in number, the faculty was self-denying and devoted and the work went forward. Each year found an advance on the year previous. The building was found to be insufficient for the accommodation of the increasing number of students. A general desire was felt for a new and larger building. The board of directors, prompted by the generous gift of Robert Patterson, one of its number, of twenty-five thousand dollars, resolved to build. The death of Dr. Bomberger, about the same time, led the Board to call the building "Bomberger Memorial Hall." The corner stone was laid June 25th, 1891. We are here to-day (June 23, 1892,) to pronounce the building finished."

CHAPTER V.

JUDICIARY AND BAR. FIRST COURT—JUDICIAL DISTRICTS—PRESIDENT JUDGES—ADDITIONAL LAW JUDGES—ROLL OF THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY BAR.

THE FIRST court held for Montgomery county, was on December 28, 1784, and it convened in the barn of the Barley Sheaf Hotel, a short distance northwest of the site of Hartranft Station, in Norriton township. The following justices of the peace were present: Frederick A. Muhlenberg, James Morris, John Richards, Henry Sheetz and William Dean. Justice Muhlenberg, by priority of commission, became presiding judge, and in 1785, was succeeded by Justice Morris who served until 1789, when a judge learned in the law was appointed by Governor Mifflin.

Judicial Districts —In 1791 Montgomery county was placed in the First district with Bucks, Delaware and Philadelphia counties. In 1806, Montgomery, Bucks, Chester and Delaware counties were constituted the Seventh district, and in 1821, Delaware and Chester counties were taken from the district. From 1806 up to 1874, Montgomery county remained in the Seventh district, but in the latter year, Montgomery county was constituted the Thirty-eighth Judicial district of the State of Pennsylvania.

President Judges.—From 1784 up to the present time, the following president judges have been appointed and elected:

1784, Frederick A. Muhlenberg; 1785, James Morris; 1791, James Biddle; 1797, John D. Cox; 1805, William Tilghman; 1806, Burd Wilson; 1818, John Ross; 1830, John Fox; 1841, Thomas Burnside; 1845, David Krause; 1851, Daniel M. Smyser; 1862, Henry Chapman; 1872, Henry P. Ross; 1882, Charles H. Stinson; 1882, B. Markley Boyer; 1888, Aaron S. Swartz.

Additional Law Judges.—1869, H. P. Ross; 1871, Arthur G. Olmstead; 1872, L. Stokes Roberts; 1873, Richard Watson; 1889, Henry K. Weand.

Associate Judges.—1784, John Richards, James Morris, Thomas Craig, Henry Scheetz and Peter Evans; 1785, James Morris; 1786, Christian Weber; 1787, Charles Baird, Jonathan Shoemaker and John Jones; 1789, Henry Pauling, Anthony Crothers and Robert Loller; 1791, Samuel Potts, Benj. Rittenhouse, Robert Loller and Benj. Markley; 1793, John Jones; 1822, Richard B. Jones; 1824, Thomas Lowry; 1837, Joseph Royer; 1841, Morris Longstreth; 1843, Josiah W. Evans; 1848, Ephraim Fenton and Josiah W. Evans; 1849, Joseph Hunsicker; 1851, Henry Longaker and Josiah W. Evans; 1855, Nathaniel Jacoby; 1856, Henry Longaker; 1860, Nathaniel Jacoby; 1861, John Dismant; 1865, Hiram C. Hoover; 1866, John Dismant; 1870, Hiram C. Hoover; 1871, Isaac F. Yost.

Roll of the Montgomery County Bar.

NAME	DATE OF ADMISSION.
Acker, Ephraim L.	February 8, 1888.
Boyd, James	August 16, 1842.
Bush, George W.	August 19, 1801.
Brownback, Harry M.	December 14, 1882.
Brunner, Henry U.	September 26, 1866
Bickel, John W.	October 18, 1871

Boyer, Henry C.	April 6, 1878
Brown, Henry R.	November 13, 1866
Baker, Frank H.	January 15, 1881
Childs, Louis M.	March 14, 1876
Chain, B. Percy	May 7, 1883
Corson, George N.	August 21, 1856
Chism, Isaac	September 14, 1881.
Clift, William M.	June 1, 1882
Day, T. Jefferson	August 21, 1871
Dickinson, Henry B.	November 16, 1863
Davis, Charles	November 13, 1865
Dannehower, Wm. F.	June 7, 1880
Dettra, John M.	December 14, 1886
Dickinson, Warren M.	October 5, 1887
Evans, Montgomery	December 2, 1878
Evans, Miller D.	November 15, 1864
Evans, Rowland	August 20, 1873
Egbert, Eugene D.	February 7, 1881
Fornance, Joseph	April 12, 1866
Freedley, Henry Jr.	November 5, 1878
Fox, Gilbert R.	May 23, 1885
Fox, Henry I.	April 4, 1895
Gibson, Muscoe M.	June 7, 1883
Gotwalts, Jacob V.	August 20, 1867
Garber, Henry B.	August 7 1882
Hunsicker, Charles	August 19, 1857
Hallman, Edwood L.	January 15, 1881
Hoover, George C.	June 18, 1877
Hobson, Freeland G.	March 1, 1886
Holland, James B.	March 1, 1886
Hendricks, Abr'm H.	June 2, 1890
Hammersley, E. G.	December 1, 1890
Hillegass, Jacob B.	June 5, 1893
Jenkins, J. P. H.	May 2, 1874
Jennings, Walter S.	February 7, 1831
Kratz, C. Tyson	June 4, 1876
Knipe, Irvin P.	June 4, 1889
Kane, Edward F.	March 3, 1890
Longaker, Abraham B.	September 28, 1873
Larzelere, N. H.	September 29, 1877
Longaker, A. Edwin	March 4, 1889
Long, Edward E.	December 5, 1887
Larzelere, J. B. Jr.	December 5, 1892
March, Franklin	August 31, 1850
Mooney, Samuel, Jr.	December 16, 1876
Miller, John F.	March 7, 1892
Place, Albert R.	October, 5, 1887
Ross, David H.	March 5, 1883
Rogers, George W.	January 23, 1854
Rennyson, William	May 3, 1886
Stinson, Charles H.	May 22, 1849
Swartz, Aaron S.	May 10, 1875
Schrack, James W.	November 15, 1873
Strausburger, J. A.	June 6, 1878
Sutton, William H.	May 17, 1875
Slough, E. F.	March 11, 1881
Solly, W. F.	September, 1, 1879
Saylor, Henry D.	February 5, 1883
Stinson, C. Henry	June 7, 1886
Stevens, Henry A.	October 23, 1848
Styer, Freas	October 5, 1887
Shaw, Walter M.	December 3, 1888
Sheive, Conrad S.	March 4, 1889
Tracy, Henry M.	September 13, 1882.
Tyson, Neville D.	August 17, 1869
Weand, Henry K.	April 21, 1860
Wanger, Irving P.	December 18, 1875
Yeakle, J. Morris	June 5, 1893

CHAPTER VI.

THE MEDICAL PROFESSION. EARLY PHYSICIANS—MONTGOMERY COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY—WOMEN PRACTITIONERS—REGISTERED PHYSICIANS SINCE 1881.

TRADITION asserts that Dr. Griffith Owens was the first regular physician that ever visited the territory of this county. Dr. Thomas Graeme, was the first resident physician, and was succeeded by Dr. Christian Frederick Martin. Dr. Jonathan Potts commenced practicing in 1771, and Dr. William Potts Dewees located in Abington township in 1789, but both of them soon removed from the county. In 1793 Dr. Isaac Huddleson settled at Norristown and contemporaneous with him were Drs. George and George W. Thomas. In 1802 Dr. John Jones located in Horsham township, Dr. Gove Mitchell at Hatboro, and Dr. Joseph Meredith near New Wales. Dr. Samuel Gartley was another early physician and located at Norristown in 1803.

Montgomery County Medical Society.—In 1847 Drs. George W. Thomas, Hiram Corson, William Corson, and W. G. Nugent urged and secured the organization of the present Montgomery County Medical society, whose membership now includes some of the ablest physicians of south-eastern Pennsylvania. The society holds its meetings at Norristown and sends delegates to the Pennsylvania State Medical society and the American Medical association.

Women Practitioners.—The first woman to practice medicine in Montgomery county was Dr. Margaret (Phillips) Richardson, who was graduated from the Pennsylvania Female college in the class of 1853, which was the second class of that medical institution. Dr. Mary H. Stinson, a native of this county, was the first woman in the United States to be elected as a physician in an asylum for the insane. Dr. Stinson was elected in 1880, as resident physician for the women's department of the State hospital for the insane at Norristown, but declined to accept, and Dr. Alice Bennett, of Massachusetts, the present incumbent, was then chosen. Since 1880, several women practiced in the county.

Registered Physicians Since 1881.

No.	*Name.*	*Residence.*
1.	N. H. Longabough,	Norristown.
2.	H. H. Whitcomb,	Norristown.
3.	H. M. Bunting,	Norristown.
4.	W. C. Roney,	Pottsgrove.
5.	H. H. Drake,	Norristown.
6.	Margaret Richardson,	Norristown.
7.	J. H. Harner,	Collegeville.
8.	John Davis,	Pottstown.
9.	Horace Still,	Norristown.
10.	Helena M. Davis,	Pottstown.
11.	J. S. Schrawder,	Upper Dublin.
12.	A. D. Markley,	Hatboro.
13.	J. Paxson,	Jenkintown.
14.	Robert Coltman,	Jenkintown.
15.	M. W. Gilmer,	North Wales.
16.	W. B. Hill,	Hatboro.
17.	H. F. Slemmer,	Norristown.
18.	J. N. Faust,	Frederick tp.
19.	G. H. Randle,	Jenkintown.
20.	Franklin Powell,	Norristown.
21.	O. H. Fisher,	Graters Ford.
22.	A. R. Tyson,	Norristown.
23.	H. U. Umstead,	Upper Pottsgrove.
24.	C. N. Houpt,	Norristown.
25.	M. A. Withers,	Pottstown.

26. J. K. Weaver, Norristown.
27. E. M. Corson, Norristown.
28. Thomas Davis, Evansburg.
29. B. K. Johnson, North Wales.
30. H. S. Jacoby, Sumneytown.
31. L. W. Read, Norristown.
32. J. W. Winter, L. Merion.
33. J. R. Umstad, Norristown.
34. S. C. Seiple, Centre Square.
35. Hiram Corson, Whitemarsh tp.
36. G. B. R. Umstad, Upper Providence.
37 E. B. Rossitor, Pottstown.
38. S. N Wiley, Norristown.
39. P. Y. Eisenberg, Norristown.
40. E. C. Leedom, Plymouth Meeting.
41. Henry Boff, E. Greenville.
42. H. M. Bellows, Huntington Valley.
43. Joseph W. Anderson, L. Merion.
44. Harry Pawling, Norristown.
45. Cornelius Bartholomew, New Hanover tp.
46. F. M. Knipe, Frederick tp.
47. David Shrack, Norriton tp.
48. R. L. Cooper.
49. G. A. Blank, Green Lane.
50. G. N. Highley, Jeffersonville.
51. W. McKensie, W. Conshohocken.
52. W. A. Gerhart, Lansdale.
53. Milton Newberry, Ft. Washington
54. John G. Hillegrass, Pennsburg.
55. William Corson, Norristown.
56. M. F. Acker, Tylersport.
57. J. H. Scheetz, Pottstown.
58. F. S. Wilson, Jarrettown.
59. C. T. Waage, Pennsburg.
60. A. R. Benner, Norristown.
61. O. Leedom, Plymouth tp.
62. G. K. Meschter, Worcester tp.
63. J. Y. Hoffman, Gilbertsville.
64. J. L. Tyson, Gwynedd tp.
65. H. F. Slifer, North Wales.
66. J. K. Reid, Conshohocken.
67. G. N. Stiles, Conshohocken.
68. John Todd, Pottstown.
69. F. B. Keller, Pottstown.
70. R. H. Andrews, Lansdale.
71. R. H. Chase, Norristown.
72. O. C. Robinson, Huntingdon Val.
73. R. K. Keeler, Salford tp.
74. S. M. Rambo, Oaks Station.
75. C. W. Gumbs, Oaks Station.
76. E. K. Blank, Hatfield.
77. John Shrack, Lower Pottsgrove tp.
78. J. Y. Bechtel, Schwenksville.
79. J. W. Royer, Trappe.
80. S. C. Moyer, Lansdale.
81. H. D. Rosenberger, Hatfield tp.
82. H. G. Groff, Salford tp.
83. V. C. Keelor, Harleysville.
84. Samuel Wolf, Jr. Skippackville.
85. W. H. Eck, Pottstown.
86. J. O. Knipe, Norristown.
87. John B. Carrel, Hatboro.
88. H. D. Pawling, King of Prussia.
89. I. N. Evans, Hatboro.
90. Mary Alice Bennett, Norristown.
91. Anna Kugler, (removed) Norristown.
92. J. G. Mensch, Pennsburg.
93. C. H. Mann, Bridgeport.
94. M. Y. Weber, Evansburg.
95. C. B. Hough, Three ——
96. J. E. Bauman, Telford.
97. Dwing Jordan, Norristown.
98. D. R. Beaver, Conshohocken.
99. D. K. Bechtel, Kulpsville.
100. S. A. Knipe, New Hanover.
101. A. G. Coleman, Lintrop.
102. M. K. Knapp, Gwynedd tp.
103. Edward Reading, Hatboro.
104. L. W. Reading, Hatboro.
105. W. J. Ashenfelter, Pottstown.
106. H. A. Arnold, Merwinville.
107. Carrol Corson, Plymouth meet—
108. B. Y. Shelly, Palm.
109. J. S. Morey, Providence tsp.
110. G. P. Sargent, Bryn Mawr.
111. M. B. Fretz, Soudertown.
112. W. C. Powell, Jr., Bryn Mawr.
113. Mahlon Preston, Norristown.
114. Wm. Saveny, Bryn Mawr.
115. G. S. Gerhard, Ardmore.
116. C. Van Artsaalem, Chelton Hills.
117. M. A. Long, Pottstown.
118. J. E. Ritter, Pottstown.
119. J. E. Peters, Jenkintown.
120. Charles Bradley, Norristown.
121. B. F. Lismant, Limerick tp.
122. J. S. Hill, Ardmore.

1882.

123. A. H. Mellersh, Merion.
124. John A. C. Tenney, Collegeville.
125. T. L. Pratt, Norristown.
126. T. U. W. Gardiner, Pottstown.
127. G. W. Roney, Pottstown.
128. P. H. Markley, Hatboro.
129. E. M. Clifford, Valley Forge.
130. C. Z. Weber, Norristown.
131. O. H. Fretz, Salfordvile.
132. J. K. Gerhard, Worcester Twp.

133. Abanus Styer, Ambler.
134. H. R. Loux, Souderton.
135. J. W. Lodge, Lower Merion Twp.
136. S. B. Swavely, Pottstown.
137. R. W. Saylor, Pottsgrove Twp.
138. D. W. Shelly, Ambler.
139. J. K. Blauck, Hatfield Twp.
140. H. P. Lorman, Philadelphia.
141. G. S. Kirby, Pottstown.
142. Annetta Krarz, Lansdale.

1883.

143. C. M. Robinson, Ambler.
144. E. J. Longshore, Reading.
145. N. J. Reiff, Pottstown.
146. E. M. Furey, Norristown.
147. S. C. Heysham, Port Kennedy.
148. W. M. Hall, Conshohocken.
149. James Dotterer, Pennsburg.
150. Mary P. Hallowell, Horsham Twp.
151. L. J. Lautenbach, Philadelphia.
152. Alex Kirkpatrick, Philadelphia.
153. R. S. Hill, Weldon.
154. W. L. Shoemaker, Geitzwatertown.

1884.

155. J. K. Bowers, Reading.
156. E. F. Gerhard, Norristown.
157. A. L. Miller, Tylersport.
158. G. A. Cross, Jenkintown.
159. D. H. Bergy, North Wales.
160. F. G. Bigony, Line Lexington.
161. S. E. Ayers, Philadelphia.
162. B. H. Nice, Norristown.
163. P. O. Wickert, Salfordville.
164. R. H. Alison, Ardmore.
165. E. M. Johnson, Norristown.

1885.

166. S. P. Seese, Lansdale.
167. A. S. Ashmead, Jr., Jeffersonville.
168. C. A. Vokum, Pottstown.
169. H. Y. Neiman, Pottsgrove Twp.
170. O. C. Heffner, Douglas Twp.
171. J. D. Weaver, Norristown.
172. A. C. Heritage, Jenkintown.
173. Titus Albright, Hatfield Twp.
174. H. M. Freas, Conshohocken.
175. John Hoffner, Lancaster.

1886.

176. G. F. Hartman, Port Kennedy.
177. J. I. Brockbank, Conshohocken.
178. E. H Egolf, Pottstown.
179. Edwin Kirkpatrick, North Wales.
180. J. M. Allebach, Skippackville.
181. Sarah A. Spare, Philadelphia.
182. C S. Horning, Shannonville.
183. E. S. Johnson, Skippack.
184. J. R. Clare, Worcester, twp.
185. Emma Richards, Norristown.
186. G. M. Wells, Norristown.
187. J. E. Blanck, Sumneytown.
188. L. T. Trumbower, Norristown.
189. J. M. Peebles, Royersford.
190. L. H. Thompson, Reading, Pa.
191. A. J. Reading, Hatboro.
192. C. F. Teigmeier, Conshohocken.
193. J. P. Hillegrass, Pennsburg.
194. G. W. Seip, Reading, Pa.

1887.

195. L. C. B. Yorgey, Pottstown.
196. S. G. Ginner, Philadelphia.
197. J. J. Fulmer, Philadelphia.
198. J. E. Porter, Pottstown.
199. Silas Burns, Royer's Ford.
200. W. J. Thornley, Norristown.
201. E L. Anderson, Haverford College.
202. M. S. Mengel, Limerick Square.
203. Thomas Theel, Ambler.
204. F. G. Theel, Ambler.
205. G. W. Everhart, Graters Ford.
206. W. B. Shaner, Pottstown.
207. E. A. Krusen, Ardmore.
208. S. M. Lane, Limerick.
209. Harry Jarrett, Norristown.
210. E. T. Bruen, Bryn Mawr.
211. E. T. Brady, Norristown.
212. Harriet N. Lewis, Norristown.
213. Ida Virginia Reel, Norristown.
214. L. L. Cope, Hatfield.
215. T. E. Cooper, Hatfield.
216. J. G. Hersh, East Greenville.
217. Eliza A. Shetter, Reading, Pa.
218. Thomas Anderson, Norristown.
219. W. H. Reed, Norristown.
220. J. C. McWhinny, Spring City, Pa.
221. T. D. Koonz, Norristown.
222. J. D. Thornley, Pottstown.

1888.

223. Andrew Lindsay, Bryn Mawr.
224. A. J. Marston, Philadelphia.
225. A. B. Sherman, Norristown.
226. J. B. Powell, Reading, Pa.
227. E. E. Johnson, Norristown.
228. S. G. Godshall, Edge Hill.
229. C. W. Saalfrank, Cheltenham twp.
230. J. D. Graber, Trappe.
231. I. L. Peters, Lehigh county.

232. J. W. Groff, Harleysville.
233. Cyrus Trego, Chester county.
234. John Henry, Norristown.
235. T. F. Conover, Fort Washington.
236. M. F. McTaggart, Reading, Pa.
237. James Tyson, Philadelphia.

1889.

238. John W. Good, Chester county.
239. G. E. Abbot, Bryn Mawr.
240. G. A. Weida, Frederick.
241. W. E. Donough, Edge Hill.
242 J. A. Hatzpield, Pottstown.
243. W. C. Widmayer, Ambler.
244. Mabel W. Moore, Norristown.
245. W. J. Davis, Pottstown.
246. H. D. Stichter, Lansdale.
247. A. A. Bancroft, Pottstown.
248. A. C. S. Herman, Lansdale.
249. W. E Ely, North Wales.
250. O. F. Blank, Royer's Ford.
251. J. N. Hunsberger, Skippack.
252. Thomas Reading, Hatboro.
253 Susan J. Tabor, Norristown.
254. F Q. McQuade, Norristown.
255. Mary Morey, Norristown.
256. Henry Sykes, Norristown.
257. Henry L. Lindobottom, Norristown.
258. D. S. Shade, Royer's Ford.

1890.

259. E. B. Manger, Stowe.
260. A. L. Gillars, Pottstown.
261. D. A. Wilson, Norristown.
262. S. B. Horning, Evansburg.
263. W. F. Lee, Ardmore.
264. G. S. Cressman, Conshohocken.
265 J. C. Knipe, Norristown.
266. G. B. Trillige, Conshohocken.
267. D. G. Hersh, East Greenville.
268. G. E. Gramm, Ardmore.
269. P. C. Mensch, Pennsburg.
270. John W. Branin, Ambler.

1891.

271. A J. Wilson.
272. B. H. Markley, Reading, Pa.
273. E. C. Town, Merion tsp.
274 F. J. Bicker, Providence.
275 W. B. Stewart, Bryn Mawr.
276. E. G. Whinna, Norristown.
277. C. D. Smedley, Delaware county
278. E. H. Breckland, Bryn Mawr.
279. F. W. Buskirk, Pottstown.
280 G. W. Stein, Rympton, Pa.
281. A. J. Bevan, Bryn Mawr.
282. R M. Clork, Center Square.
283. Robert Whinna, Norristown.
284. Walter Crystic, Bryn Mawr.
285. J. H. Seiple, Centre Square.
286. Ella M. Boyd, Cheltenham tsp.
287. Robert Coltman, Jr., Jenkintown.
288. F. R. Pierson, Royer's Ford.
289. E. M. Gramm, Norristown.
290. J. B. Mintzer, Philadelphia.
291. H. P. Boyer, Barren Hill, Pa.
292. H. Y. Evans, Bryn Mawr.
293. J. S. Patterson, Hatfield Station.
294. J. J. McGuigar, Philadelphia.
295. S. D. Barr, Philadelphia.

1892 and 1893.

296. W. E. Reifsnyder, Reading, Pa.
297. W. E. Rotzell, Narberth.
298. F. A. McGrath, Norristown.
299. J. J. Kauer, Norristown.
300. M. K. Neifler, Jenkintown.
301. W. N Leedom, North Wales.
302. T. P. Tyson, Jenkintown.
303. C. E. Landis, Limerick Square.
304. W. O. Smith, Philadelphia.
305 R. G. Gramble, Narberth.
306. J. W. Warren, Bryn Mawr.
307. L. B. Evans, Philadelphia.
308. W. S. McGadgen, Manayunk.
309. A. O. Gery, Palm.
310. A. W. Hendrick, Schenksville.
311. H. F. Scholl, Green Lane.
312. W. A. B. Knapp, Pottstown.
313. E. L. Acker, Norristown.
314. J. W. Reber, Norristown.
315. J. R. Baer, Sansanville.
316. Albert Ellershaw, Bridgeport.
317. F. L. Hamilton, Lafayette Station.
318. D. H. Bradley, Meadow Brooke.
319. E. C. Suke, Royer's Ford.
320. J. R. Hobensack, Norristown
321. Edward Humphreys, Philadelphia.
322. Bernard Schoettler, Philadelphia.
323. J. H. Bradley, Conshohocken.
324. E. M. Vaughan, Royer's Ford.
325. L. L. Hand, North Wales.
326 J. C. Spear, Jr., Norristown.
327. W. H. Hunsberger, Pennsburg.
328 G. W. Kehl, Rexburg, Pa.
329. I. O. Drain, Ardmore.
330. C. B. Williams, Abington.

1894.

331. W. H. Long, Jr., Philadelphia.
332. G. H. Crabtree, Royer's Ford.
333. A. A. Hoopman, Hatfield, Pa.
334. A J. Britt, Norristown.
335. T. F. Branson, Philadelphia.
336. L. S. Walter, Jenkintown.
337. Hiram Ritter, Souderton.
338. D. D. Richardson, Norristown.
339 G. W. McCaffery, W. Norristown.
340. W. G. McKinney, Pottstown.
341 W. H. Knipe, Pottstown.
342. J. D. Lippincott, Norristown.
343 A. C. Mills, Norristown.
344. J R Knapp, Montgomery twp.
345. F. E. Yerkes, Hatboro.
346. H. S. Neff, Berth Ayres.
347. E. T. Miller, Limerick.

1895.

348. P. H. Corson, Plymouth Meeting
349. E. G. Kriebel, Worcester.

CHAPTER VII.

RELIGIOUS DENOMINATIONS.

FIRST in order of age of the religious denominations of Montgomery county is the Society of Friends. The Friends' Welsh Meeting house at Merion was built in 1695; Abington, in 1697; Gwynedd, in 1700; Plymouth, 1712; Horsham, 1724; Upper Providence, 1743; Pottstown, 1753; Upper Dublin, 1814; and Norristown, 1852.

Almost contemporaneous with the Friends came the Mennonists or Mennonites. The history of this denomination is very scant. Their first meeting house is supposed to have been built in Perkiomen township about 1725. Five years later Franconia and Salford meeting houses were built. In 1742, Providence was built; in 1750, Kulpsville was erected; and before 1812, Methacton and Towamencin churches were added to the list. There are now over a dozen churches in the county.

The German Baptist or Dunkards, seem to be third in order of age of the religious denominations in the county. The Dunkard churches are mainly in the Perkiomen valley and number about ten or twelve. But little can be secured of their early history. Salford church was established about 1721; Towamencin before the Revolutionary war, and Worcester about 1809.

The Protestant Episcopal church dates its existence back to 1710, when St. Thomas' congregation, of Whitemarsh, was founded. St. James church of Lower Providence, was organized in 1730; St. John's, of Norristown, 1812; Christ's, of Pottstown, 1828; Church of the Redeemer, of Lower Merion, 1848; St. Paul's Memorial, about 1850; Calvary, of Conshohocken, 1858; Church of Our Saviour, of Jenkintown, 1858; St. Paul's, of Cheltenham, 1860; Church of the Messiah, of Gwynedd, 1870; St Peters, of Weldon, 1883; and the church at Lansdale, in 1885.

The Baptist church was founded in the county in 1719, by the organization of Montgomery church, which was its sole representative for nearly a century. Lower Providence and Lower Merion churches were organized in 1809; Norristown, 1832; Mt. Pleasant, in Whitpain, 1834; Hatboro, 1835; Cold Point, in Whitemarsh, 1842; Bridgeport, 1850; Pottstown, 1859; North Wales, 1862; Conshohocken, 1870; Royer's Ford, 1879; Jenkintown, 1880; and Lansdale, 1884.

The first Presbyterian church was Abington. It was organized about 1719. Norristown Presbyterian church was organized in 1735; Providence, 1738; First Norristown, 1819; Pottstown, 1848; Second Norristown, 1849; Central, of Norristown, 1855; Grace, 1870; and Ashbourne, 1878.

The Lutheran church, strongest in num-

ber of the religious denominations of the county is traced back to 1720, when New Hanover church was organized. Zion church was organized in 1730. Old Goshenhoppen, 1732; New Goshenhoppen, 1733; Augustus at Trappe, 1733; Upper Dublin, 1733; St. Peter's, 1738; New Jerusalem, 1765; St. John's, 1769, Pottstown, 1772; Limerick, 1817; Trinity, Norristown, 1830; and Summerstown, 1857. The Swedes organized Christ Swedish Lutheran church in Upper Merion about 1750.

The Reformed church was established in Montgomery county in the same year as the Lutheran church. The first Reformed church was New Hanover, organized in 1720. The Wentz church was formed in 1727, Falkner Swamp, 1729; Reiff's, 1731; New Goshenhoppen, 1731; Boehm's, before 1760; St. Luke's at Trappe, 1742; Goshenhoppen, 1748; Indian Creek, 1753; New Jerusalem, 1765; St. Peter's, 1769; Limerick, 1817; Ascension, Norristown, 1847; South Wales, 1866; and Trinity, Norristown, 1870.

Fourteen years after the founding of the Lutheran and Reformed churches came the establishment of the Schwenkfelder's. The Lower Salford Schwenkfelder church was organized in 1734, the Towamencin church in 1765, and Worcester church before the Revolutionary war.

The Methodist Episcopal church was organized in Montgomery county in 1770, by the formation of the Bethel or Supplee church. The Union Methodist Episcopal church was organized in 1814; First Norristown, 1832; Cheltenham, 1834; Harmer Hill, 1842; Hatboro, 1845; Pottstown, 1848; Lower Merion, 1850; Evansburg, 1851; Montgomery Square, 1852; Conshohocken, 1854; Oak Street, Norristown, 1854; Kulpsville, 1862; Jarrettown, 1865; Lansdale, 1870; Haws Avenue, Norristown, 1875; St. Luke's, Bryn Mawr, 1876, and Rover's Ford, 1879.

The Catholic church was founded in the county in 1845, by the organization of St. Patrick's church at Norristown. St. Aloysius Catholic church was formed at Pottstown, before 1856; St. Matthew's, of Conshohocken, 1859; Church of the Immaculate Conception, Jenkintown, about 1860; and St. Stanislaus, of Lansdale, about 1875.

The Evangelical Association or German Methodists organized a church at East Greenville. Of their present churches in the county, Norristown was formed in 1859; Salem, of Pottstown, 1869, and Lansdale, 1875.

CHAPTER VIII.

PRESS AND POLITICS. EARLY NEWSPAPERS—PRESENT COUNTY PRESS—PROMINENT EDITORS—PRESIDENTIAL VOTES SINCE 1832—STATE SENATORS AND MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES—LISTS OF SOME OF THE LEADING COUNTY OFFICIALS.

EARLY NEWSPAPERS.

THE INITIAL newspaper of Montgomery county was *The Norristown Gazette*, which made its appearance on June 13, 1799, and gave way a year later to the *Herald*. It was a four page three column sheet 8½x10 inches. It was printed by David Sower, at one dollar per annum. In the first year of the present century, Mr. Sower started the *Herald*, which has continued up to the present time, advocating successively the principles of the Federal, Whig and Republican parties. The first issue of the *Herald* was on October 11, 1800, and its editors have been: David Sower, Charles Sower, Jr., David Sower, Jr., John Hodgson, Robert Iredell, Morgan R. Wills, Robert Iredell, Jr., Howard M. Jenkins and Morgan R. Wills. On December 20, 1869, Mr. Wills issued the first number of the *Daily Herald*, the first daily in the county, and its columns was made highly entertaining by the productions of John H. Williams, whose reputation as a humorist soon became national.

The rival of the *Herald* made its appearance some time in 1800, and its owner was a Mr. Wilson. The *Register* has been a supporter successively of the National Republican and Democratic parties. Its proprietors have been: ——— Wilson, James Winnard, Samuel D. Patterson, ——— Powell, Adam Slemmer, John B. Sterigere, Dr. E. L. Acker, Isaiah B. Houpt and E. K. Kneule.

The *Herald* and *Register* for a half a century, were the only permanent papers in the county. Among the other early papers started in the county may be named: The Pottstown *Times*, 1819-1831; *Montgomery Ledger*, 1831-1895; *Free Press*, 1829-1837; *Olive Branch*, 1842-1857; Norristown *Republican*, 1857-1865; *Bauern Freund*, 1827-1895; *Montgomery Democrat*, *Montgomery Watchman*, 1849-1858, and the *National Defender*, 1856-1895.

Present County Press.

Papers.	*Place.*	*Politics.*
Gazette,	Ambler,	Independent.
Chronicle,	Ardmore,	Republican.
News and Home News,	Bryn Mawr,	Independent.
Providence Independent,	Collegeville,	Independent.
Recorder,	Conshohocken,	Independent.
Perkiomen Ledger,	East Greenville,	Local.
News,	Harleyville,	Local.
Public Spirit,	Hatboro,	Independent.
Mirror,	Hatfield,	Local.
Guide,	Jenkintown,	Local.
Home News,	Jenkintown,	Local.
Beobachter (German),	Lansdale,	Local.
Reporter,	Lansdale,	Independent.
Republican,	Lansdale,	Republican.
Herald,	Norristown,	Republican.

Montgomery County Post (G.), Norristown, Democrat.
National Defender, Norristown, Democrat.
Register, Norristown, Democrat.
Register and Montgomery Co., Norristown, Democrat.
Democrat, Norristown, Democrat.
Review, Norristown, Independent.
Schuylkill Valley Sentinel, Norristown, Independent.
Times, Norristown, Republican.
Record, North Wales, Independent.
Bauern Freund (German), Pennsburg, Democrat.
Ledger, Pottstown, Neutral.
Montgomery Ledger, Pottstown, Neutral.
News, Pottstown, Independent.
Tribune, Royer's Ford, Independent.
Item, Schwenksville, Independent.
Montgomery Transcript, Skippack, Republican.
Neutralist (German), Skippack, Republican.
Independent, Souderton, Independent.

Prominent Editors.—Of the early editors we have but little account. Robert Iredell did much to advance journalism in the county and made his paper a success. Adam Slemmer was an early editor of force and influence, and his successor, Albrecht Kneule, has won prominence and success as a journalist. Another editor of prominence and usefulness is William J. Binder. Morgan R. Wills, while active and prominent in journalism, is also the author of the able historical sketch of Montgomery county in Dr. Egle's History of Pennsylvania. Mr. Wills' former associate, Howard M. Jenkins, is the principal writer on the "Memorial History of the City of Philadelphia," the first volume of which has just come from the press. We give the following extract from Mr. Jenkins' work in that history, which explains how and why the Quakers in 1756 gave up the control of the general assembly of Pennsylvania:

"In the midst of the war excitement the time came for taking the assembly out of the hands of the Quakers. It was not an easy matter. With their own strength in the three older counties, and that of the Germans still firmly adhering to them in these and the newer ones, a majority of voters could not be procured against their candidates. Even under the alarm and excitement of Braddock's defeat, the election in October, 1755, resulted as usual. But earnest efforts were on foot to loosen their hold on Pennsylvania. They were to be deposed in the assembly, as they had been in the governorship, and in the city corporation. Late in 1755 a petition against them, strongly signed in Philadelphia, was sent to the king. It declared that there could be no effectual way of preventing the people from electing the Quakers to the assembly but to disqualify the latter from sitting in that body. The provost of the college, Dr. William Smith, then in London, wrote letters to the newspapers there, some of which were reprinted here in pamphlets, to the like effect. He proposed to disqualify the Quakers for seats in the assembly, to disfranchise the Germans till they acquired a "sufficient knowledge" of English, and to suppress the periodicals issued in the German language. The royal government had yielded to the pressure so far as to propose an act of parliament making a test oath —such as the Friends could not take—necessary for membership in the assembly, when the Friends in London brought about a compromise. They undertook to see that enough of their members who had seats in the assembly should resign or decline reelection to give the majority and responsibility to those not scrupulous on the war question. The 'Meeting for Sufferings,' a standing and executive committee of London yearly meeting, sent over a strong letter, urging the Friends here to yield their difficult and practically untenable position, and sent also two prominent Friends, John Hunt, of London, and Christopher Wilson, of Cumberland, to use personal persuasion if necessary. In the summer of 1756, six of the Quaker members of the assembly resigned, three of them being from Philadelphia—James Pemberton, Joshua Morris, and William Callender—two from Chester, and one from Berks. At the election in October that year, others of the Quaker members declined to be candidates, and when the assembly met a fortnight later, four more withdrew, stating their understanding that 'the ministry have requested it.' The assembly thus passed out of the hands of the Friends."

Popular Vote of Montgomery County at Presidential Elections Since 1832.

1832 Democratic, Andrew Jackson, 3,315.
Anti-Mason, William Wirt, 2,507.
1836 Whig, William H. Harrison, 2,409.
Democratic, Martin VanBuren, 3,446.
1840 Whig, William H. Harrison, 4,068.
Democratic, Martin VanBuren, 4,869.

1844 Whig, Henry Clay, 4,491.
Democratic, James K. Polk, 5,596.
Liberty, James G. Birney, 49.
1848 Whig, Zachary Taylor, 5,040.
Democratic, Lewis Cass, 5,627.
Free Soil, Martin VanBuren, 251.
1852 Whig, Winfield Scott, 4,791.
Democratic, Franklin Pierce, 5,767.
Free Dem., John P. Hale, 160.
1856 Republican, John C. Fremont, 2,845.
Democratic, James Buchanan, 7,134
American, Millard Fillmore, 2,265.
1860 Republican, Abraham Lincoln, 5,826.
Democratic, John C. Breckinridge, 5,590.
Cons't Union, John Bell, 690.
Ind. Dem., Stephen A. Douglas, 509.
1864 Republican, Abraham Lincoln, 6,872.
Democratic, George B. McClellan, 7,943
1868 Republican, Ulysses S. Grant, 8,083.
Democratic, Horatio Seymour, 8 803.
1872 Republican, Ulysses S. Grant, 8,080.
Dem. and Lib., Horace Greeley, 5,113.
Democratic, Charles O'Connor, 0.
Temperance, James Black, 0.
1876 Republican, Rutherford B. Hayes. 9,386.
Democratic, Samuel J. Tilden, 9,654.
Greenback, Peter Cooper, 58.
Prohibition, Green C. Smith, 40.
1880 Republican, James A. Garfield, 11,026.
Democratic, Winfield S. Hancock, 11,025.
Greenback, James B. Weaver, 75.
Prohibition, Neal Dow, 0.
1884 Republican, James G. Blaine, 11,617.
Democratic, Grover Cleveland, 11,088.
Greenback, Benjamin F. Butler, 66.
Prohibition, John P. St. John, 215.
1888 Republican, Benjamin Harrison, 13,445.
Democratic, Grover Cleveland, 12,582.
Greenback, Alson J. Streeter, 11.
Prohibition, Clinton B. Fisk, 379.
1892 Democratic, Grover Cleveland, 13,611.
Republican, Benjamin Harrison, 13,591.
Prohibition, John Bidwell, 447.
Socialistic Labor, Simon Wing, 11.
Peoples', James B. Weaver, 22.
Indust. Ref., Alfred E. Redstone, 0.
American, James L. Curtis, 0.
United Labor, Robert H. Cowdrey, 0.

STATE SENATORS.

1796, Zebulon Potts.
1796-97, William Chapman, of Bucks county.
1797-98, Joseph McClellan.
1798-99, Dennis Wheeler.
1799-1801, Zebulon Potts.
1801-7, John Richards.
1807-11, Jonathan Roberts, Jr.
1811-15, Samuel Gross.
1815-19, George Weaver.
1819-24, Philip S. Markley.
1824-29, Joel K. Mann.
1829-31, Benjamin Reiff.
1832-35, John Matthews
1836-40, Henry Myers, of Chester county.
1840-41, John B. Sterigere.
1841-43, Abraham Bower.
1843-46, John B. Sterigere.
1846-49, George Richards.
1849-52, Joshua Y. Jones.
1852-55, Benjamin Frick.
1855-58, Thomas P. Knox.
1858-61, John Thompson.
1861-64, John C. Smith.
1864-67, Horace Royer and Wilmer Worthington, of Delaware county.
1868-70, Charles Stinson.
1871-73, Henry S. Evans, of Chester county.
1873-76, William A. Yeakle.
1876-78, Jones Detwiler.
1879-81, Lewis Royer.
1882, William Henry Sutton.
1886, Henry R. Brown.
1890, A. D. Markley.

MEMBERS OF ASSEMBLY.

1784, Peter Richards, Robert Loller, George Smith, Benjamin Rittenhouse.

1785, Benjamin Rittenhouse, Robert Loller, Peter Richards, Thomas Rees.

1786, Charles Moore, Samuel Wheeler, James Hockley, Jacob Reiff.

1787, Jacob Reiff, Robert Loller, Benjamin Rittenhouse, Peter Richards.

1788, Robert Loller, Jacob Reiff, Peter Richards, John Roberts.

1789, Jacob Reiff, John Roberts, Benjamin Markley, James Vaux.

1790, Benjamin Markley, John Roberts, James Vaux, Cadwalder Evans.

1791, Cadwalder Evans, Joseph Tyson, James Vaux, Isaiah Davis.

1792, Isaiah Davis, Joseph Tyson, Cadwalder Evans, John Shoemaker.

1793-95, Cadwalder Evans, Joseph Tyson, John Shoemaker, Isaiah Davis.

1796, Cadwalder Evans, Abram Schultz, Joseph Tyson, John Shoemaker.

1797, Cadwalder Evans, Benjamin Brooke, Peter Muhlenberg, Nathaniel Boileau.

1798, Benjamin Brooke, Nathaniel Boileau, Frederick Conrad, Cadwalder Evans.

1799, Frederick Conrad, Nathaniel Boileau, Jonathan Roberts, Isaiah Davis.

1800-1, Nathaniel Boileau, Isaiah Davis, Frederick Conrad, Jonathan Roberts, Jr.

1802, Samuel Henderson, William Hagy, Cadwalder Evans, Isaiah Davis.

1803-4, Nathaniel Boileau, Henry Scheetz, Samuel Gross, John Mann.

1805, Cadwalder Evans, Samuel Miles, Samuel Rees, William Hallman.

1807-8, Nathaniel Boileau, Samuel Groff, Isaiah Davis, John Weber.

1809-10, Richard Leech, John Weber, Matthew Brooke, George Weaver.

1811, Jesse Bean, Benjamin Reiff, George Weaver, Matthew Brooke.

1812, Jesse Bean, Benjamin Reiff, George Weaver, Philip Reed.

1813, Jesse Bean, Benjamin Reiff, Philip Reed, William Powell.

1814, William Powell, Benjamin Reiff, Samuel Baird, John Hughes.

1815-16, William Powell, William M. White, Dr. Tobias Sellers, Dr. James Anderson.

1817, Joel K. Mann, William M. White, Jacob Drinkhouse, Tobias Sellers.

1818, Joel K. Mann, William M. White, Jacob Drinkhouse, Isaiah Wells.

1819-20, Joel K. Mann, Peter Miller, Jacob Drinkhouse, Isaiah Wells.

1821-23, Joseph Royer, Peter Miller, John B. Sterigere. William Powell.

1824, Jonathan Roberts, Robert Hobart, John B. Sterigere, Michael Cope.

1825, Jonathan Roberts, Michael Cope, Robert Hobart, John Stevens.

1826, John Matheys, Michael Cope, James Evans, John Stevens.

1827-28. John Matheys, James Evans, Adam Slemmer, John Stevens.

1829, John Matheys, James Evans, Adam Slemmer.

1830, John Shearer, Philip Hoover, Adam Slemmer.

1831-32, John Shearer, Philip Hoover, John E. Gross.

1833-34, Joseph Fornance, John M. Jones, Henry Schneider.

1835, William Schall, Wright A. Bringhurst, Robert Stinson.

1836-38, Jacob S. Yost, Henry Longaker, Samuel Leech.

1839, Jacob S. Yost, Henry Longaker, Charles D. Jones.

1840, Charles D. Jones, Enos Benner, George Snyder.

1841, Ephraim Fenton, William B. Hahn, William Bean.

1842-43, Charles Kugler, William B. Hahn, William Bean.

1844, Charles Kugler, Henry Dotts, Jesse Weber.

1845-46, Henry Dotts, Benjamin Hills, Benjamin F. Hallowell.

1847, John S. Weiler, George Wertsner, John Thompson.

1848, Benjamin Hill, Benjamin Hallowell, David Evans.

1849-50, David Evans, William T. Morrison, William Henry.

1851, William Henry, Curtis W. Gabe, Oliver P. Fretz.

1852-53, Curtis W. Gabe, Oliver P. Fretz, Henry Beyer.

1854, Henry Beyer, Charles H. Palmer, Jacob Fry, Jr.

1855, Jacob Fry, Jr., Henry N. Wickersham, James Rittenhouse.

1856-58, Josiah Hillegas, Goorge Hamel, A. Brower Longaker.

1859-61, David Stoneback, John Dismant, Charles Hill.

1862-64, Joseph Rex, Hiram C. Hoover, George W. Wimley.

1865-67, A. D. Markle, Edwin Satterthwait.

1868-69, James Esbach, Henry McMiller.

1870, John J. C. Harvey, James Esbach.

1871-72, Oliver G. Morris, John J. C. Harvey.

1873, Oliver G. Morris, Samuel Nyce.

1874, Thomas G. Rutter, Joseph B. Yerkes.

1875-76, Thomas G. Rutter, Joseph B Yerkes, Francis M. Knipe, John C. Richardson, James B. Law.

1877-78, John C. Richardson, James B. Law, Francis M. Knipe, Edwin Hallowell, Montgomery Longaker.

1879, Edwin Hallowell, John C. Dannehower, Mahlon Sellers, William B. Roberts, Isaac Hoyer.

1881, William B. Roberts, Isaac Hoyer, Josiah S. Pearce, D. H. Gehman, Harry R. Brown.

1883, Theodore Harrar, Lewis H. Davis, John Lunderman, John C. Dannehower, Stephen Yerkes.

1885, John M. Cunningham, Samuel Faust, William D. Heebner, William A. Redding, Thomas J. Stewart.

1887, John M. Cunningham, William D. Heebner, Joseph A. Shoemaker, Austin L. Taggart, Samuel Faust.

1889, Theodore W. Bean, Joseph Shoemaker, Austin L. Taggart, Charles Moore, Samuel Faust.

1891, Charles I. Baker, John Burton, Austin L. Taggart, Milton H. Watters, Frank A. Wile.
1893, J. Beans Gœntner, Franklin A. Comly, George C. Hollenbach, B. Witman Dambly, Austin L. Taggart.

COUNTY OFFICIALS.

RECORDERS.

1784, Frederick Augustus Muhlenberg.
1789, Robert Loller.
1790, Robert Loller.
1791, James Morris.
1795, Thomas Craig.
1799, William R. Atlee.
1800, Thomas Potts.
1809, Archibald Darrah.
1818, George Wack,
1821, Jesse Roberts.
1822, Jacob Hubley.
1824, John Markley.
1826, John Markley.
1830, William Powell.
1833, S. D. Patterson.
1834, James Wells.
1836, Robert Iredell.
1839, Tobias Sellers.
1842, Daniel Fry.
1845, Henry Drake.
1848, H. G. Hart.
1851, R. B. Longaker.
1854, George Lower.
1857, William H. Hill.
1860, Thomas G. Rutter.
1863, Henry Unger.
1866, Christopher Wycoff.
1869, Henry Bernard Nase.
1872, George W. Neiman.
1875, John W. Schall.
1878, John W. Schall.
1881, Henry W. Kratz.
1884, Aaron Weikel.
1887, Benjamin Thomas.
1890, George W. Pawling.
1893, George W. Keys.

REGISTERS.

1784, Thomas Ewing.
1789, Robert Loller.
1791, James Morris.
1799, William Richardson Atlee.
1800, Thomas Potts.
1809, Archibald Darrah.
1818, George Wack.
1821, Jesse Roberts.
1822, Jacob Hubley.
1824, John Markley.
1830, William Powell.
1836, Nathaniel B. Boileau.
1839, John Shearer.
1842, William Earnest.
1845, B. F. Yost.
1848, William Fronefield.
1851, John M. Jones.
1854, Isaac Schneider.
1857, Philip S. Gerhard.
1860, Charles Hurst.
1863, Isaiah B. Houpt.
1866, Christopher Lower.
1869, John J. Nocton.
1872, Septimus Roberts.
1875, Solomon Snyder.
1878, Warren B. Barnes.
1881, J. Roberts Rambo.
1887, Joseph W. Hunter.
1890, Albert Helffenstein.
1893, Joseph C. Crawford.

PROTHONOTARIES.

1784, Thomas Craig.
1799, William R. Atlee.
1800, Francis Swain.
1809, Philip Hahn.
1818, William Powell.
1821, Frederick Conrad.
1826, Thomas Lowry.
1830, Jacob Fry.
1833, Adam Slemmer.
1836, John Bean.
1839, Josiah W. Evans.
1842, Jones Davis.
1845, Mehelm McGlathery.
1848, J. B. Evans.
1851, N. Jacoby.
1854, Bowyer Brooke.
1857, Florence Sullivan.
1860, Jared Evans.
1863, John R. Griggs.
1866, Jesse H. Gery.
1869, John B. Yerkes.
1872, William F. Reed.
1875, Philip Quillman.
1878, A. Franklin Hart.
1881, John McLean.
1884, William B. Woodward.
1887, George Scheetz.
1893, Samuel E. Nyce.

The present deputy prothonotary and clerk are Abram D. Hallman and W. H. H. McCrea.

SHERIFFS.

1784, Zebulon Potts.
1787, Francis Swain.
1790, Henry Kooken.
1793, Nathan Pawling.
1795, Isaiah Wells.
1795, John Pugh.
1798, John Markley.
1801, Isaiah Wells.
1804, William Henderson.
1807, David Dewees.
1810, Isaiah Wells.
1813, Thomas Lowry.
1816, Justice Sheetz.
1819, Philip Sellers.
1822, Philip Boyer.
1825, Christian Snyder.
1828, Jones Davis.
1831, Henry Longaker.
1834, John Todd.
1837, Ardemus Stewart.
1840, Jacob Spong.
1843, James Wells.
1846, John Boyer.
1849, Philip Hahn.
1852, M. C. Boyer.
1855, Samuel D. Rudy.
1858, John M. Stauffer.
1861, Francis Kile.
1864, E. N. Beysher.
1867, Philip Gerhart.
1868, William J. Bolton,
1868, John W. Hunsicker.
1871, Jeremiah B. Lazelere.
1874, John Linderman.
1877, Jacob Tyson.
1880, Joseph Frankenfield.
1883, Edwin S. Stahlnecker.
1886, Henry C. Kline.
1889, Clinton Rorer.
1892, Albert D. Simpson.

The present deputy sheriffs are Wm. W. Owen and Charles Johnson.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.

1790, Christian Scheid.
1790, Nathan Potts.
1790, John Mann.
1791, Conrad Boyer.
1792, John Wentz.
1793, John Jarrett.
1794, Morris Hobson.
1795, Frederick Conrad.
1796, Samuel Maulsby.
1797, Conrad Boyer.
1798, James Bean.
1799, Henry Sheetz.
1800, Philip Boyer.
1801, Christian Weber.
1802, Richard T. Leach.
1803, Philip Hahn, Jr.
1804, Thomas Humphries.
1805, John Markley.
1806 George Bucher.
1807, John Lowery.
1808, Mahlon N. Boskirk.
1809, Isaac Markley.
1810, George Heist.
1811, Samuel Mann.
1812, Owen Evans; Samuel Patterson, appointed.
1813, Jacob Yost.
1814, Samuel Patterson; ——— Schlater.
1815, J. McFarland; ——— Cope.
1816, Dr. ——— Hough.
1817, Andrew Gilkeson.
1818, Henry Kerr.
1819, Christian Mattis.
1820, William Ayers.
1821, George Kline.
1822, Wm. McGlathery.
1823, Henry Doub.
1824, Peter Bastras, Jr.
1825, David C. Kulp.
1826, George Piper.
1827, Henry Schneider.
1828, John Todd.
1829, Christian Keisel.
1830, John Geyer.
1831, William Hamill.
1832, Amos Addis.
1833, Samuel E. Leach; Benjamin B. Yost.
1834, F. C. Burnside.
1835, Jacob Fritz.
1836, John Scheffer.
1837, Abel Thomas.
1838, William Stevens.
1839, John Bechtel; Silas Yerkes.
1840, Mehelm McGlathery.
1841, Joseph Nettles.
1842, Isaac Burk.
1843, Daniel Yost.
1844, Samuel Shoemaker.
1845, Samuel H. Graff; John Smith.
1846, Charles Greger.
1847, John Katz.
1848, Daniel Quillman.

1849, Daniel Harp.
1850, William W. Dunn.
1851, Michael Hartzell.
1852, Archibald Bains.
1853, John Cowden.
1854, Isaac F. Yost.
1855, John Hoffman.
1856, Benjamin Fleck.
1857, Jacob Brandt.
1858, John B. Adams.
1859, Daniel Carr.
1860, Isaac Huber.
1861, George Pennick.
1862, Jacob Slifer.
1863, Abraham C. Cole.
1864, Tobias G. Hauge.
1865, William G. Smith.
1866, Henry H. Hartman.
1867, Benjamin Tyson.
1868, Francis Kehr.
1869, John Y. Fritz.
1870, Dennis Dunne.
1871, John Stever.
1872, John T. Comly.
1873, Edward Johnson.
1874, Charles M. Soliday.
1875, George B. Erb; Amos D. Moser; Charles M. Soliday.
1878, Jesse B. Davis; Noah D. Frank; Amos D. Moser.
1881, James Burnett; Hiram Burdan; William L. Rittenhouse.
1884, James Burnett; Hiram Burdan; Thomas McCully.
1887, Samuel K. Anders; Daniel Yeakel; John S. Rahn.
1890, Samuel K. Anders; Daniel Yeakel; Charles D. Loch.
1893, Samuel K. Anders; Charles M. Reed; Milton G. Erbe.

The present efficient and courteous clerk of the board is Edward Elsenhaus.

TREASURERS.

1813, Isaac Markley.
1814, George Heist.
1815, Samuel Mann.
1816, Owen Evans.
1817, John McFarland.
1818, Casper Schlater.
1819, Michael Cope.
1820, Samuel Wentz.
1822, Henry Kerr.
1823, Chris. Mattis.
1824, William Ayers.
1825, George Kline.
1826, William McGlathey.
1827, Henry Doub.
1829, David C. Kulp.
1830, George Piper.
1831, Henry Schneider.
1832, John Todd.
1833, Christian Keisel.
1834, John Geiger.
1835, Ardemus Stewart.
1836, Jacob Heighley.
1837, Fred. Dallecker.
1838, William Hamill.
1839, Samuel E. Leech.
1840, Benjamin B. Yost.
1841, F. C. Burnside; Jones Smith.
1842, Jones Smith.
1843, David Beard.
1845, Moore Stevens.
1847, J. H. Steiner.
1849, John Hines.
1851, Jesse Gable.
1853, P. M. Hunter.
1855, John M. Fenten.
1857, Fred. Brendlinger.
1859, Aaron Drake.
1861, George Sechler.
1863, R. B. Longaker.
1865, Joseph Beerer.
1867, G. W. Jacoby.
1869, Nath Wagonhurst.
1871, George C. Reiff.
1872, Samuel F. Jarrett.
1877, Evan G. Jones.
1880, J. R. Yost.
1883, Henry A. Cole.
1887, William H. Young and Isaac Fegeley.
1890, Edwin S. Stahlnecker.
1893, Samuel Effrig.

William H. Young died and his term was filled out by Isaac Fegeley. The present deputy treasurer is Benjamin F. Leister.

CLERK OF COURTS.

1784-1895.

1830, John H. Scheetz.
1839, Benjamin Johnson.
1839, George H. Pawling.
1842, William Rossiter.
1845, John McNair.
1848, Andrew H. Tippin.
1851, Washington Richards.
1854, Jesse B. Davis.
1857, E. B. Moore.
1860, James Burnsides.
1863, Daniel Fisher.
1866, Jacob F. Quillman.
1869, Samuel B. Helffenstein.
1872, Merrit M. Missimer.
1875, Franklin T. Beerer.
1878, Henry S. Smith.
1878, O. N. Uner, appointed.
1881, Edward Schall.
1884, Edward Schall and Alex. Maulsberger.
1887, Alex Maulsberger.
1890, Abner H. Gehman.
1893, Daniel A. Shiffert.

CHAPTER IX.

MILITARY HISTORY. INTER-COLONIAL WARS—REVOLUTIONARY WAR—WAR OF 1812—PHILADELPHIA RIOTS—MILITIA—THE CIVIL WAR—REGIMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS—NATIONAL GUARD.

SEVERAL TIMES during the four inter-colonial wars the citizens of what is now Montgomery county were alarmed by threatened Indian invasions, yet no raid was ever made in any section of the county, and no record is available of those who served in the Colonial troops in the frontier struggles from Queen Ann's war in 1702 to the close of the French and Indian war of 1763.

Revolutionary War —The peace spirit and religious principles of most of the inhabitants of the county, prevented them from taking up arms in the Revolutionary war, yet there were many others who went forth to battle in the cause of the Colonies. In 1777 Philadelphia county was divided into seven militia battalion districts, but we have no account of those who served from the territory of Montgomery, except the following officers: Colonels, Daniel Heister, Jr., Benjamin McVeigh, William Dean, Robert Curry, and Frederick Antis; Lieutenant-colonels, Jacob Reid, David Schneider, Robert Loller, Archibald Thompson, Frederick Weis, and Isaac Warner; Majors, Jacob Markley, John Holmes, George Right, John Edwards, Jacob Bush, and Matthew Jones. In 1782, under the legislative act calling for an appraisement of damages inflicted by the British forces in 1777, but fourteen townships reported their losses, which amounted to over seventeen thousand pounds or eighty-five thousand dollars.

Speaking of the Revolutionary war in Montgomery county, William J. Buck says, "The Scotch-Irish and Irish materially contributed to the strength of the army during the Revolution. Andrew Porter's company of artillery was largely made up of the former, and Colonel Stephen Moylan's cavalry regiment of the latter. Concerned from the very beginning, we had such men as General Peter Muhlenberg, Colonel Samuel Miles, Colonel Robert Loller, Colonel John Bull, Colonel Andrew Porter, Colonel Christopher Stuart, Colonel Archibald Thompson, Charles Thompson, David Rittenhouse, Frederick Antes, and the patriotic Heister family of Upper Salford, as well as many more, who did much to aid the cause. The events of Whitemarsh, Barren Hill, Valley Forge, and the Crooked Billet transpired on our soil, and all that precedes and follows the battle of Germantown. Within these limits, during the memorable struggle, Washington and his army remained nine months, lacking five days, very probably a longer time than was spent in any other county during this period. The several houses used as his headquarters are still standing, and the remains of entrenchments, thrown up on our hillsides, can be traced to this day."

War of 1812.—The second great war in which the citizens of Montgomery county were called to take a part was

that of the War of 1812. During the early part of the struggle there was no call made upon the militia of the county, but in 1814, when Philadelphia was threatened, the entire militia of southeastern Pennsylvania was summoned to be in readiness for marching orders. A large camp was established at Marcus Hook, on the Delaware river, and in Delaware county. To this camp the following Montgomery county militia companies were ordered: Captain Jacob Fryer, John Grosscup, William Holgate, John Hurst, William McGlathery, Joseph Sands, William McGill, —— McLean, James Robinson, George Sensenderfer, and Jacob Wentz. Major-General Henry Scheetz, of Montgomery county, commanded the Second division of the Pennsylvania militia, and Brigadier-General Isaiah Wells commanded the First brigade of the Second division while it was encamped at Macus Hook.

Philadelphia Riots.—When the Philadelphia riots broke out in 1844, about four hundred Montgomery county militia were ordered out and helped materially in quelling the rioters and restoring quiet. The following companies from this county served in quelling those riots: First and Second troops of cavalry, Union Grey, New Hanover, Washington Gray, and Sumneytown artillerists, First National Dragoons, Union Rifle company, Pennsylvania Defenders, Lafayette Blues, Montgomery Guards, and Goshenhoppen Grays.

Mexican War.—While no company from Montgomery county enlisted for the Mexican war, yet there were several of her citizens who were soldiers in Pennsylvania regiments that served in Mexico under Scott. Lieutenant (afterwards colonel) Andrew H. Tippen and Benjamin Ehler were in the Eleventh United States infantry. Albert Arthur and George and Henry Lowther were in another regiment, and the last named died in Mexico, of brain fever. Joseph Cleaver and Michael Dougherty were members of the Mountain Howitzer battery, and Louis Monsert served in the Second Pennsylvania.

Militia.—There seems to be no battalion or regimental rosters or history preserved of the militia of Montgomery county which was included in one of the militia districts of the state. The militia system was quite prominent from 1812 to 1861, and after the close of the late Civil war was succeeded by the National Guard, whose services were so effective in the Homestead riots and coke strikes.

The Civil War.—On that dark day in April, 1861, when the storm of civil war burst upon the nation and the Union was apparently rent in twain, there was no county in Pennsylvania whose devotion to the government was more pronounced than Montgomery county. Throughout the mighty struggle it gave a generous support to the Federal government and sent forth its sons by hundreds to battle for a reunited country and the preservation of the government founded by the Revolutionary forefathers.

Regimental Organizations. — The Fourth Pennsylvania infantry originated in the First Pennsylvania militia. Companies A, B, C, D, E, I and K were recruited in Montgomery county, and the regiment commanded by Colonel John F. Hartranft left Harrisburg, for the seat of the war, on April 21, 1865. It served in Maryland and under General McDowell until July 20th, and the most of its members shortly afterward joined other regiments.

Company B, of the Forty-fourth regiment or First Pennsylvania cavalry, was recruited

in Montgomery county by Captain (afterwards Colonel) Owen Jones. This company served with bravery from Gainesville to Appomattox court-house. Of its members, Lieutenant William Buzby, Robert Maxwell, and Theodore Shaffer, died of disease; Philip A. Mower, died of wounds; and Sergeant George L. Lytle, Corporal John B. Styer, Samuel A. Haws, Howard McAfee, John Smith and John Yocum, killed in battle.

The Fifty-first Pennsylvania infantry was recruited by Col. John F. Hartranft, in November, 1861, and served gallantly in North Carolina, under Pope and McClellan, at Vicksburg and Knoxville, and under Grant from the Rapidan to Appomattox court-house. Of this regiment Companies A, C, D, F, and I were recruited in this county. Those of these companies who died and were killed were as follows: Lieutenant John S. Moore, Sergeant Jacob H. Moyer, Sergeant Robert Supplee, Corporal Frank H. Mills, Corporal George Vebele, Corporal Joseph White, Corporal John C. Brannon, George Bodey, Henry Boyer, John Bare, George W. Berks, William Backer, George Bond, Gotlieb Bellman, William Carney, James Coulston, Jacob H. Derr, Simon Dobson, Jesse Frease, Charles Fix, Jeremiah Gray, William Horf, William Heard, Charles Keyser, William Kilpatrick, Lewis Mattis, Nelson Y. Mattis, Lewis Myers, James McGuire, Henry McLane, Washington McDade, Harvey Pinch, Edward Quinlan, George Smith, Henry Smith, David Shrack, William Somerlot, Adam W. Yeager. Lieutenant Davis Hunsicker, Lieutenant Thomas J. Lynch, Sergeant Patrick Kevin, Corporal Andrew J. Grim, Corporal William Hooker, Corporal Joseph Cornog, Corporal David Kane, Jacob Brunner, Samuel Dean, Michael Dougherty, Reuben DeHaven, Henry Erhard, Simon P. Emery, Henry H. Fry, Henry Gunter, Eli Garner, Franklin Hendricks, John Hallowell, Val Hartenstein, J. A. Kevin, James Murphy, John McFaul, Michael McMullin. Morris Robinson, Hilary Sloop, Philip Stoflet, George Sweeney, John Upright, Lieutenants Samuel Fair and Isaac Fizone, Sergeant William Dignan, Corporal George W. Bowman, William H. Bodey, Charles Blakeney, Jere. Cassedy, James Conway, Walter Easton, John B. Godley, George Hayberry, Samuel Kay, Richard Lewis, John W. Lonsdale, W. S. Laubach, John Magee, James McKenna, James McQuerness, Barnard O'Donnel, George Olewine, John Roshon, John Richards, P. L. Sourwine, W. H. Showalter, George Shaffer, W. H. Weidner, Josiah Weidner, David H. Yerkis, Lieutenant Allan H. Fileman, Corporals Robert B. Lindsay, Edwin R. Worth, Josiah Wood, and William L. Jones, H. H. Addleman, Thomas G. Ashton, Charles Elwood, John Camden, William Comer, Jere Dunlap, S. H. Daub, William Dresher, Samuel Gillespie, J. M. Holmes, Henry S. Lentz, Reuben McKeever, William McIntire, Henry Shaeffer, Henry Shultz, Henry White, Charles Wagoner, William Wise and John M. Young.

The Fifty-third Pennsylvania Infantry was raised and commanded by Col. John R. Brooke, of Pottstown. This regiment was recruited in 1861 and served with distinction in most of the hard-fought battles of the Potomac. Company A. was recruited at Pottstown and Company B. was raised in Montgomery and Chester counties. Those who lost their lives in these companies were: Sergeants George W. Shingle and William H. Graham, Corporals, John H. Fryer, James McFarland and Josiah Godshall, G. W. Bechtel, George W. Beard, Franklin

Bell, Milton Brant, Samuel H. Campbell, George Comfort, Meyers Dailey, Gotlieb Deagle, H. F. Fryer, John H. Fryer, Eli Graham, G. O. Hendricks, George W. Holt, W. P. Johnson, E. D. Longaker, Price Maurice, Sergeant Jacob Bower, Corporals C. M. Supple, G. W. Mills, Augustus Wert, Jacob Boyer, A. Bowerman, William Carwell, John Dressler, John Fogle, Samuel Freed, W. H. Hutton, George Heasteley, Daniel Heller, G. B. Kupp, Daniel Keslinger, Peter Lohr, J. F. Logue, I. M. Millard, I. N. Milliard, Andrew Swineheart, J. W. Sonnett, Jesse Tyson, Amos Walters and Henry Yeagle.

The Sixty-eight Pennsylvania infantry that fought so gallently at Chancellorsville and Gettysburg, under command of Colonel A. H. Tippin, contained one company (H,) that was recruited in Montgomery county. Of Company H, those who were killed and died were: Corporals J. B. Herbst, Thomas Derolf, George W. Geiger, Henry F. Guss, Edward Kocher, David G. Leffet, Solomon Miller, Benjamin Reifsnyder and Abraham Souder.

Company G, of the Ninety-third, and Company E, of the Ninety-fifth Pennsylvania infantry contained both officers and men who were from this county.

Company G, of the One Hundred-sixth Pennsylvania infantry was recruited in Montgomery county, and participated in all the battles of the regiment from Fair Oaks to Cold Harbor. The mortuary list of Company G, was as follows: William Allen, John Bobb, Thomas Bitler, William Caruthers, Thomas Fagan, John Flick, George Krupp, John O'Kearney, Walter Leggett, Wilson Ritter, George W. Robbins, Henry Smith, John Schwenk, Abraham Stoltz, Anthony Starr, W. S. Townsend and Torrence Tobin.

The One hundred twenty-ninth Pennsylvania infantry was recruited in 1862, took a prominent part in the battles of Fredricksburg and Chancellorsville and was discharged in 1863. Company I, of this regiment was recruited in Montgomery county, and its mortuary list was as follows: Corporal M. S. Kelly, James W. Essig, Benjamin Fudge, Jesse K. Gordon and Jos. D. Keyser.

The One hundred thirty-eighth Pennsylvania infantry was raised in 1862, served with the army of the Potomac and under Sheridan until the close of the war, and bore itself handsomely in some of the hardest battles of the war. Companies A, C, I and K, of this regiment came from Montgomery county, and their mortuary list was as follows: Lieutenant John E. Essick, Sergeant D. W. Roberts, Corporals John H. Slingluff, P. A. Smith and M. E. Hinkle, Henry Colter, P. S. Eddleman, Abraham Gotwaltz, Samuel Grubb, J. S. Hollowell, J. D. Jackson, Edward H. Linck, William Magee, George W. Ross, William Rodenbaugh, Archibald Stewart, Sylvester Stahley, Lieutenant Samuel W. Cloward, Leidy Cook, I. P. Freese, Jesse A. Myers, Joseph R. Skean, A. VanFossen, Jr., Lieutenant John H. Fisher, Corporals George H. Klopp and Christian Kasler, William Batman, William Eppright, S. R. Ireton, Joseph Michener, J. J. Roberts, Joseph Rohr, Christian Stogner, Henry Swartley, Eli Thomas, James Wilson, Sergeants, C. B. Thompson and S. C. Bodder, Corporal W. P. Iredell, George H. Burke, Benjamin Brayman, Peter L. Fluck, David Klingkiner, Amos Mullen, Patrick Monaghan, J. F. Miller, R. P. March, Aaron Mattis, Sylvester Merrick and Stephen McCullough.

Several men from this county were in the

One hundred sixtieth regiment or Fifteenth Pennsylvania cavalry.

Company L of the One hundred sixty-second regiment or Seventeenth cavalry, was recruited in Montgomery and Chester counties, and participated in five campaigns and over sixty engagements. The mortuary list of Company L was as follows: Corporal John G. Tyson, Ellis B. Davis, Beneville Eck and Henry March.

The One Hundred seventy-fifth Pennsylvania infantry that served for nine months in North Carolina and the Virginias, contained two compnaies (A and H) that were recruited in Montgomery county. Corporal Nathan Comley, of Company A, died in North Carolina.

In the One hundred seventy-ninth Pennsylvania infantry that served for nine months were three companies (A, B and G) from this county. This regiment, when its time was about expiring in 1863, patriotically offered its services to Governor Curtin to aid in repelling Lee. Of the three companies (A, B and G) one soldier, Joseph Holbert, died at Yorktown, Virginia.

During Lee's first invasion in 1862, the following companies from this county served in the Pennsylvania militia:

Eleventh regiment, Companies C, D, G and H. Seventeenth regiment, Companies B and G. Nineteenth regiment, Company E. Captain S. W. Comly's cavalry company. Captain D. H. Mulvany's cavalry company.

Company A, First New Jersey cavalry, was recruited in the county in 1863, and in that year to meet Lee's second invasion, the following companies from Montgomery served in the Pennsylvania militia:

Twenty-sixth regiment, Company F. Thirty-fourth regiment, Companies B, C, E, H, I. Forty-first regiment, Company B. Forty-third regiment, Company I. One hundred ninety–seventh regiment, (one hundred day's men) Companies F and G. Independent cavalry batallion, Company B. Captain S. W. Comly's cavalry company.

The names of those marked missing in the company rosters were not inserted in the mortuary lists given in this chapter. A large number of soldiers from Montgomery county served in companies recruited in other counties in this and adjoining states.

National Guard of Pennsylvania.—The Sixth regiment of the National Guard of Pennsylvania was organized, and has its headquarters located at Norristown. The following companies of this regiment were recruited in the county:

Company A, Pottstown. Company C, Conshohocken. Company F, Norristown.

In speaking of the soldiers of Montgomery county, Dr. C. Z. Weizer in his centennial address said: "General Peter Muhlenberg, of Independence days, whose statue now graces the rotunda at Washington, was born within our borders. General Andrew Porter, who fought in the Revolutionary army so gallantly at Trenton, at Princeton, at Brandywine, and wherever courage was needed, was a native of this county. Nor dare we forget our grand citizen soldiers, whose records shine so brilliantly since the late period of contention and strife—Major Generals John Frederic Hartranft and Winfield Scott Hancock. These are real genuine Montgomery-countians. And do not the names of Brooke and Zook stand in red letters?"

CHAPTER X.

MISCELLANEOUS. AGRICULTURE—COUNTY BUILDINGS—EARLY BANKS—POPULATION—SLAVERY—UNDERGROUND RAILROAD—INSURANCE—BUILDING AND LOAN ASSOCIATIONS—CEMETERY—TAYLOR COLLEGE—SECRET SOCIETIES—STATE HOSPITAL FOR THE INSANE—COUNTY CENTENNIAL—EARLY TELEGRAPHS AND TELEPHONES—AUTHORS—HISTORIANS—COUNTY PROGRESS.

GOOD FARMING has been defined as the process of taking large crops from the soil and leaving it at the same time better than it was found. Agriculture, the most essential of productive industries, as an art antedates history, but as a science is of modern birth. A rude beginning, forty centuries of lethargic existence and then a high development and rapid progress, such is the history of agriculture. American agriculture in regard to grain productions has been divided into four eras or epochs: the first or experiment period, embracing colonial days; the second or awakening period, from the Declaration of Independence to the introduction into general use of the iron plow; the third or development period, from the introduction of the threshing-machine to the time of the Centennial exhibition in 1876; and the fourth or progressive period, now characterized by labor-saving machinery, elevator improvement, perfected systems of land and ocean transportation of grain by steam power, and specialization of productions.

The farmers of Montgomery county since its early settlement have kept abreast of the agricultural advance of the country in each of its agricultural periods. In 1880 the county contained six thousand, one hundred and fourteen farms averaging forty-nine acres each, of which nearly five thousand were cultivated by their owners. Of these farms, whose estimated value was over six million dollars ($6,000,000,) three hundred thousand, three hundred and eighty-one acres were improved and thirty thousand, three hundred and twenty seven acres were unimproved.

The acreage and cereal production of Montgomery county in 1879 were as follows:

CEREALS.	ACRES.	BUSHELS.
Buckwheat,	153	2,234
Indian Corn,	38,175	1,521,097
Oats,	25,671	840,085
Rye,	13,854	194,636
Wheat,	25,875	486,763

In 1879 the county produced five hundred and sixty-four thousand six hundred and forty-three bushels of Irish potatoes from five thousand two hundred and seventy acres, and one thousand six hundred and eighty-four bushels sweet potatoes from twenty-two acres. The spring clip of wool, in 1880, was fifteen thousand four hundred and twenty-eight pounds, while sixteen acres of tobacco yielded a crop of twenty thousand nine hundred and thirty pounds.

In dairy products Montgomery county ranks as the second county in the state. In 1880 the county contained thirty-four thousand nine hundred and eighteen cows,

whose dairy products were: Five million five hundred and thirty-four thousand and thirty-two gallons of milk, four million one hundred and sixty-six thousand four hundred and seventy-nine pounds of butter, and three hundred and forty-two thousand and four pounds of cheese. In 1880 there were also in the county fourteen thousand eight hundred and five horses, and twenty-one thousand one hundred and sixty swine.

At this writing the United States census statistics of 1890 cannot be obtained in full of agricultural productions, and often some parts of one census are not published much before the taking of the next census.

The first agricultural society in the county was the Jefferson Agricultural association, which was organized February 23, 1846. This association held its first annual exhibition at Jeffersonville, October 19–20, 1848, and on February 4, 1850, changed its name to that of the Montgomery County Agricultural society. The society's grounds were located at Springtown, and some dissatisfaction with the location led a part of the members to organize the East Pennsylvania Agricultural and Mechanical society, which purchased twenty acres of ground at Norristown and held annual exhibitions from 1861 to 1867.

County Building.—The original court house stood near the site of the present one, was a two-story stone building and in connection with the first jail was finished in 1787, at a cost of twenty-one thousand dollars. Four years later a small stone building was erected for those having the county records in charge. The present stone jail was built in 1851, at a cost of sixty-eight thousand dollars, and the next year the erection of the present court house was commenced. The present court house, built of brick and faced with Montgomery county marble, was completed at a cost of one hundred and fifty thousand dollars, is a fine structure and was the finest building of its kind in the State at the time of its erection. The present court house officials, without a single exception, are courteous and efficient and their various records are kept in the best of order, while the janitor, Daniel H. Charles, looks well to the care and appearance of the building and grounds.

The county home establishment consisted originally of several buildings which in 1878 were remodeled and enlarged. The county home was secured in 1806 by Hon. N. B. Boileau, and the farm, which consists of two hundred and sixty-five acres, is situated on the Schuylkill river and in Upper Providence township.

Early Banks.—The first bank in the county was the "Bank of Montgomery County," chartered March 21, 1814, and in 1865 changed to a national bank under its present title of Montgomery National bank. The second bank at Norristown, was Albertson's Banking house, established in 1857, and it, in order of age at Norristown, was succeeded by the First National, organized in 1864, and the People's National established in 1881. The third bank in the county was the Bank of Pottstown, organized in 1857, at Pottstown, where Cassleberry & Co.'s private banking house was established in 1868. The First National bank of Lansdale was organized in 1864, and seventh in order of age came in 1873, the First National bank of Conshohocken, where the Tradesmen's National bank was organized in 1882. In 1874 the National bank of Schwenksville was organized, and in the succeeding year the Jenkintown National and the Perkiomen National (East Greenville) banks were established, while the Centennial year ushered into existence

the Farmer's National and the Union National banks, the former at Pennsburg and the latter at Souderton.

Population.—The population of Montgomery county has increased at every census taken by the Federal government and has been as follows:

1790—22,929.	1850—58,291.
1800—24,150.	1860—70,500.
1810—29,703.	1870—81,612.
1820—35,793.	1880—96,494.
1830—39,406.	1890
1840—47,241.	

Slavery.—When Montgomery county was organized in 1788, it had one hundred and eight slaves. In 1790 there were one hundred and fourteen slaves and four hundred and forty free negroes, but in ten years those in servitude had decreased to thirty-three in number, and in 1830, not a single slave was in the county.

Underground Railroad.—That branch of the Underground railroad or route by which slaves escaped from the south to Canada, that passed through Montgomery county, was known by the name of the Northern route. Phoenixville, Norristown and Quakertown were stations on the line, and escaping slaves were constantly passed over it from 1787 until the commencement of the late Civil war. Rev. Samuel Aaron, Dr. William Corson and quite a number of others were prominent and active in forwarding fugitive slaves on their way to Canada.

Insurance.—The leading life and accident Insurance Companies of the United States and England do a large business in the county, while home mutual fire and storm insurance companies have insured over seventy millions dollars worth of property. The Mutual Fire Insurance of Montgomery county, chartered in 1841, and the Union Mutual Fire and Storm insurance organized in 1866, are the oldest of the home insurance companies.

Building and Loan Associations.—The first building and loan association was organized at Conshohocken in 1851, and since then they have came into existence in every important place and center of population in the county and have been the means of securing hundreds of homes to the laboring class.

Cemeteries.—The West Laurel Hill Cemetery company was incorporated in 1869, and purchased one hundred and ten acres in Lower Merion Township and but a short distance from the Philadelphia city line. The cemetery is beautifully situated and tastefully laid out with winding walks. Riverside Cemetery near Norristown is another tasteful cemetery of Montgomery county, and has been modeled partly after one of the great and most beautiful cemeteries of the United States.

Taylor College.—This institution for the education of women was planned by Dr. Joseph W. Taylor, who died in 1880. Taylor and Merion Halls were built by 1885, and the tract of land on which they were erected at Bryn Mawr contains thirty seven acres. Dr. Taylor gave eight hundred thousand dollars to found the college. But the name has since been changed to that of Bryn Mawr College. It is now one of the leading colleges for the higher education of women in this country.

Secret Societies.—The oldest secret organization in the county is the Masonic Fraternity. Tradition says a military lodge of Free Masons was organized at Valley Forge and that Washington presided over its meeting. Charity Lodge No 190, Free and Accepted Masons, was instituted at Norristown in 1823; Norristown Royal Arch

Chapter No 190, in 1858; and Hutchinson Commandery No. 32, Knights Templar, in 1868.

The Independent Order of Odd Fellows was introduced into the county in 1837, by the organization of Montgomery Lodge, No. 57. Norristown Encampment No. 37, was organized in 1846, and Lanah Degree Lodge No. 133, of the Daughters of Rebecca was instituted in 1883

The Improved Order of Red Men was introduced into Pennsylvania by the organization of Tecumseh Tribe, No. 1, at Norristown in 1846.

The following secret organizations have been introduced into Montgomery county in the year placed opposite their names:

Organization.	*Year.*
Patriotic Order Sons of America,	1847
Order of United American Mechanics,	1847
American Protestant Association,	1853
Grand Army of the Republic,	1868
Knights of Pythias,	1868
Knights of Friendship,	1868
Ancient Order of Good Fellows,	1869
Patrons of Husbandry,	1873
Knights of the Golden Eagle,	1873
Temple of Honor and Temperance,	1873
Brotherhood of the Union,	1874
Ancient Order of United Workmen,	1879
Junior American Protestant Association,	1882
Ancient Order Knights of the Mystic Chain,	1882
American Legion of Honor,	1882
Sons of Veterans,	1882
Knights of the Revolution,	1884
Black Knights of Malta,	1884

We have no information at this writing to give the years in which the Good Templars, Sons of Temperance, Royal Arcanum, Mystic Druids and Junior Order of American Mechanics were introduced into the county.

The Grand United Order of Odd Fellows was introduced into the county in 1851, by five colored men at Norristown, and in 1868 the Independent Order of Good Samaritans and Daughters of Samaria, composed of colored men and women, were established.

In addition to the Daughters of Rebecca, women are members of the following orders in the county: Lady Masons, Pythian Temple, Dames of the Knights of Pythias and Daughters of the Forest.

State Hospital for the Insane.—The state hospital for the insane of the southeastern district of Pennsylvania was located in 1878 at Norristown, where a farm of two hundred acres was purchased and the erection of hospital building commenced. There are twelve separate buildings on the cottage plan and the women's department was placed under charge of Dr. Alice Bennet. The methods of treatment are advanced and progressive and have been since adopted in many other asylums for the insane.

County Centennial.—The centennial celebration of Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, which took place at Norristown and lasted from the 9th to the 12th of September, 1884, was brought about through the efforts of the Montgomery County Historical society. Over six thousand dollars were raised in the county to defray the expenses of the occasion and great numbers of people assembled to witness the exercises of the three days. Dr. Bomberger opened the first day's exercises by prayer, and J. P. Hale Jenkins made the address of welcome, after which the Rittenhouse meridian stone was dedicated and an address delivered by Judge B. Markley Boyer. During the second day the historical oration was delivered by William J. Buck, the poem read by George N. Corson, and an oration delivered by Dr. C. Z. Weizer. On the third day the grand parade occurred and Theodore W. Bean delivered a short address to the In-

dian children present from the Lincoln institute of Philadelphia. The antiquarian exposition was the only feature of the fourth and last day, and about fifteen thousand people viewed the hundreds of articles on exhibition in the twenty-nine classes or departments into which they were arranged. Joseph Fornance was president of the Centennial association, and F. G. Hobson and M. M. Gibson were the secretaries.

Early Telegraphs and Telephones. The introduction of the telegraph into the county was some time prior to 1855, when the Philadelphia and Norristown Telegraph company was organized and purchased the House line of printing telegraph between those places.

The Norristown Telephone exchange was established in 1883, and within a year had one hundred and seventy-two stations in the county.

Authors.—William J. Buck in his bibliography of Montgomery county, describes the following authors: J. M. Anders, Wilmer Atkinson, John James Audubon, Moses Auge, Elijah W. Bean, Theodore W. Bean, Enos Benner, E. M. Benner, John Philip Boehm, J. H. A. Bomberger, J. H. Borneman, W. L. Breton, W. L. Boyd, William J. Buck, Belle Bush, Abraham H. Cassel, J. C. Clay, Charles Collins, William Collum, George N. Corson, L. H. Davis, P. S. Davis, W. P. Dewees, Christopher Dock, H. S. Dotterer, Rowland Ellis, David Evans, Elizabeth Ferguson, J. F. Fisher, Edward Foulke, Joseph Foulke, E. T. Freedley, Andreas Frey, Christian Funk, Henry Funk, C. H. Garber, F. W. Geisenhainer, Abraham Grater, J. C. Guldin, John Gummere, S. R. Gummere, Benjamin Hallowell, B. F. Hancock, J. K. Harley, J. Y. Heckler, Samuel Helfenstein, Mrs. Lydia W. Hilles, Frank G. Hobson, Balthasar Hoffman, John Holme, Mrs. Anna M. Holstein, Geo. W. Holstein, S. M. K. Huber, Nimrod Haghs, Abraham Hunsicker, Howard M. Jenkins, D. K. Kassel, Sir William Kieth, C. P. Krauth, Reuben Kreibel, Abraham Krupp, Benjamin Lay, Peter LeGaux, David Lloyd, Joseph Lloyd, Mrs. Susan Lukens, Edward Matthews, Jacob Medtart, Lucretia Mott, Henry Earnest Muhlenberg, Henry Melchior Muhlenberg, Francis Murphy, Sam'l Mussleman, David Newport, Samuel E. Nyce, John Parke, Ellis Pugh, Jas. G. Ralston, Francis Rawle, Jas. Rees, J. W. Richards, David Rittenhouse, Jacob Ritter, Job Roberts, Christopher Shultz, Joshua Shultz, B. M. Schmucker, Mrs. Anna Young Smith, W. M. Smith, W. R. Smith, David Sower, Senior; David Sower, Jr.; Jacob Taylor, A. K. Thomas, Charles Thompson, George Wack, Albigence Waldo, M. H. Walters, Daniel Weiser, C. Z. Weiser, Joseph Wertner, William Whitehead, Bird Wilson, James Winnard, Henry Woodman, W. A. Yeakel and John Young.

Historians.—William J. Buck made many valuable contributions to the history of Montgomery county and southeastern Pennsylvania, and was a painstaking writer in every field of knowledge in which he labored. We quote the opening sentences of his historical oration at the county Centennial, to show his style of writing and breadth of thought. "It is well in the flight of time to have occasion to pause and review the events that have transpired around us; to know whether, on the whole, we have advanced or retrograded, as concerns the general welfare; in what respect, if any, we have really progressed; and that the changes going on be pointed out, that comparisons may be instituted and deductions drawn as to the results. This is the philosophical aim of history, and, if justly car-

ried out, when made known to a thinking people, cannot fail to exert a beneficial influence."

Theodore W. Bean, the editor of "The History of Montgomery County," issued in 1884, by Everts and Peck, was a man of ability, education and culture, and like William J. Buck, was a careful writer. He preserved much of the history of the county from oblivion. In the history of the county that he edited is contained a vast amount of information that only could have been obtained by diligent and painstaking research. His style was clear and exact, but in his historical work a multitude of facts and limited time and space allowed no opportunity for finished writing or beautiful language. From his address to the Indian children at the county Centennial, we take the following extract as illustrative alike of his style, thought and language. "Two hundred years and more have elapsed since Christian civilization confronted your forefathers in the Schuylkill valley. Your hunting grounds have been turned into wide areas of agricultural wealth and commercial splendor, and the rude implements of their simple mode of living are now here on exhibition as antique curiosities. Back to the Alleghenies, across the "Father of Waters," over and beyond the Rocky mountains your race has receded, and from the plains and forests of the Pacific slope, you have been gathered as the children of lost tribes, in the hope of saving the remnant of a people whose origin is still an ethnological mystery, and whose honor is vouched for by Acrelius, Penn, Logan, Heckwelder, Gordon and Weiser."

As a writer of biographical history, Moses Auge was exceedingly successful, and his biographical volume relating to Montgomery county is a valuable and well written work.

Howard M. Jenkins' history of Philadelphia is recognized as a standard work, and his earlier historical efforts were made in this county.

Morgan R. Wills wrote the historical sketch of Montgomery county that is given in Dr. Egle's history of Pennsylvania, and of those who assisted Theodore W. Bean on the history of Montgomery county, Frank G. Hobson was one who did valuable work.

County Progress.—Montgomery county, while characterized by neither wonderful growth nor phenomenal development, yet has always been in the front rank of the progressive counties of the state. With good soil and considerable water power, traversed by two important railways, and almost included within the suburbs of one of the greatest cities of the North American continent, the county should be noted for the prosperity of its present industries and most excellent facilities for future enterprises.

Montgomery county, rich within her own agricultural resources, her manufacturing interests and her commercial facilities, need never occupy any but a prominent and useful position in the wealth and development of the mighty and populous State which is the keystone of the arch of the Union.

Such is the spirit of change, and such is the march of progress, that prophecy seldom becomes history; yet if material development has meaning, if mental culture and moral growth stand for life and progress, then will the future career of Montgomery county be as worthy as her past record is honorable.

SAMUEL T. WILEY.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

BIOGRAPHIES

HON. HENRY K. WEAND, additional law judge of the thirty-eighth judicial district of Pennsylvania, is a son of Barned and Sarah (Krepps) Weand, and a native of Pottstown, this county, where he was born March 29, 1838. The Weands are of German extraction, and the family takes rank with the early settlers of the Keystone State. Wendell Weand, paternal grandfather of Judge Weand, was a prosperous farmer of Montgomery county, an old line Whig in politics and a Lutheran in religious faith. He died in New Hanover township, this county, and his remains sleep in the Swamp church cemetery, in that township. He married Catharine Dotterer and had a family of eleven children, one of his sons being Barned Weand (father), who was born at the old homestead in New Hanover township, December 10, 1805. He was reared on the farm, educated in the common schools, and afterward engaged successively in butchering, shoemaking and hotel keeping. His death occurred at Pottstown, September 15, 1862, at the age of fifty-seven. He was a Whig and Republican in politics, took an active part in public affairs, served as a member of the town council of Pottstown, and was at one time a prominent candidate for county treasurer. In 1832 he married Sarah Krepps, a native of this county, and a daughter of Henry Krepps, also descended from an old Pennsylvania family of German ancestry. By this marriage he had a family of six children, four of whom still survive: Hiram B., now a resident of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania; Sarah, married F. H. Auchy, of Pottstown; James, residing at Pottstown, this county; and Hon. Henry K.

The boyhood of Judge Weand was spent in Pottstown and Philadelphia, and his education was obtained at institutions of learning located in those places and at Norristown. He studied law in 1859 with Hon. B. M. Boyer, afterward president judge of this district, and was admitted to the bar in April, 1860. Immediately after this he opened an office in Norristown and began practice, but when Fort Sumter was fired on and the whole North electrified by the opening thunders of the Civil war, the young attorney locked his office and sought the tented field, enlisting in April, 1861, as a member of Company K, 4th Pennsylvania infantry. Upon the organization of the company, Mr. Weand was commissioned first lieutenant, and served as such until the muster out of the regiment. In August, 1862, he re-enlisted in the 15th Pennsylvania cavalry, commanded by Colonel W. J. Palmer, as a private, and was promoted through all the grades to captain. He served with the army of the Potomac and Cumberland, taking part in the battles of Antietam, Stone River, Chickamauga, Moss Creek, Dandridge, and many other less noted engagements and skirmishes, and only returned to civil life when the Federal authority was everywhere acknowledged. For some weeks he was in the hospital at Knoxville, Tennessee, but during nearly all his long term of enlistment was able for official duty and always at his post. He was honorably discharged in June, 1865, and at once returned to Norristown and resumed

the practice of law, which he continued until his elevation to the bench in 1887. In that year he was appointed additional law judge by Governor James A. Beaver, to fill a vacancy, and took his seat as such on the first Monday in December. The appointment expiring in 1889, Judge Weand was, in November, 1888, elected to the position for a full term of ten years, and is now discharging the delicate duties of that high office with ability and satisfaction alike to bar and public.

In his political affiliations Judge Weand has always been a Republican, and previous to ascending the bench took an active interest in politics. He has frequently represented this county in State conventions of his party, and was twice a candidate for district attorney, but the district being largely Democratic at the time, he was defeated with the rest of his ticket. Judge Weand has also been twice a candidate for congress from the Seventh Pennsylvania district, being defeated for nomination in 1876 by I. N. Evans by only two votes. He was a notary public for twenty-two years, served as solicitor for the board of commissioners, sheriff, clerk of the courts and town council, and was president of the Norristown school board for six or eight years, and a director of the Norristown Gas company. In 1873 Judge Weand was appointed judge advocate general on the staff of Governor Hartranft, with the rank of brigadier general, and served as such until the close of General Hartranft's administration. He is a member of the Masonic order; of Zook Post No. 11, Grand Army of the Republic; and of the Loyal Legion of Pennsylvania.

On April 23, 1868, Judge Weand was married to Mary Lydia Boyer, a daughter of John and Harriet Boyer, of Norristown. To the judge and Mrs. Weand have been born three children, one son and two daugh ters: Harriet B., now the wife of Hug Jones Brooke, of Media, Pennsylvania Sarah E., and Ralph H., the last tw named living at home with their parents i their handsome residence at Norristown.

As a lawyer Judge Weand was able, fai industrious, always calm in the considera tion of a case and extremely energetic in it prosecution. With a profound knowledg of the law, and familiar with the rules c practice, he was very successful in buildin up and maintaining a large legal busines and was distinguished for his interest in th younger members of the bar. As a judg he is upright, able and erudite in his dec sions, and has a quick perception of th equities and law points involved in a cas He is a logical reasoner, an eloquent speake and a man of esthetic tastes. Generous i disposition, he has seldom or never refuse an appeal for assistance, and although quic of temper, has perfect control of himsel and is of a forgiving nature which is hu rather than angered by injury done hin He is affable and pleasant in manner, but i fully known by only a few intimate friend

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GENERAL JOHN W. SCHALL, wh served with distinction in the Civ war, and now holds the rank of briga dier general in the National Guard of Penn sylvania, is a son of Hon. David and Catha rine (Andy) Schall, and a native of Berk county, Pennsylvania, where he was bor June 22, 1834. The Schalls are descende from a prominent French Hugunot family which was driven from France by the re ligious persecutions following the revoca tion of the edict of Nantes. Members c this family finally made their way to th

John W. Schall

new world and settled in Pennsylvania about 1848, where their descendants have become somewhat numerous. Hon. George Schall, paternal grandfather of General Schall, was a resident of Berks county, this State, during the greater part of his life, where he was largely engaged in the manufacture of iron. He was a Jacksonian Democrat, became prominent in politics, served in various official positions, and was a member of the State senate at the time of his death in 1831.

He married Miss Catharine Oyster and reared a family of eight children, one of whom was Hon. David Schall (father), who was born at Oley, Berks county, this State, May 25, 1801. The latter received a superior education, and succeeding to his father's interests, became a wealthy iron manufacturer, and maintained his connection with that important industry all his life. Like his father, he espoused the cause of Democracy, being a firm friend of popular government, and was honored by his party with election to the office of associate judge of Berks county, which position he held for full two terms. He also served as a Democratic elector in the National campaign of 1860, and occupied many other places of honor and trust.

He was connected with the local militia, serving as major of his battalion. In religion he was a member of the Reformed church, with which he was officially connected for many years. He died at Dale, Berks county, January 22, 1877, at the age of seventy-six years, and his remains rest in the cemetery connected with his church at that place. He married Catharine Andy, a native of Berks county, and a daughter of Jacob Andy. To that union was born a family of nine children, five sons and four daughters, all of whom grew to maturity and became active and useful citizens of the Keystone State.

General John W. Schall was reared principally in Berks county, and educated in private schools at Trappe and Norristown, after which he pursued an extended course of advanced study in the Military academy at Norwich, Vermont. After graduating from the latter institution, he was connected for several years with an engineering corps under John C. Trautwine, and later embarked in the dry goods business at York, Pennsylvania, where he subsequently became a member and first lieutenant of the York rifles, a local military organization. Immediately upon the opening of the Civil war and the call of President Lincoln for volunteers, the York rifles proffered their services in a body, and was one of the first companies to enter the service fully armed and equipped. For this promptness in time of danger they were afterward awarded medals by the State. They were commanded by Captain George Hay, and were duly mustered into service April 19, 1861, as Company K, 2nd Pennsylvania infantry, only four days after the President's proclamation had been signed, and just one week after the first gun had thundered against Fort Sumter, and precipitated the greatest armed conflict of modern times.

At the expiration of their term of enlistment—three months—Lieutenant Schall returned and organized a company for three years' service, but just then received authority from the secretary of war, Simon Cameron, to organize a regiment at York, Pennsylvania. Upon the formation of this regiment, the 87th Pennsylvania infantry, he was appointed colonel, but declining to accept that rank, was made lieutenant colonel, and served as such until May 9, 1862, when a vacancy occurring, he was promoted

to the colonelcy of his regiment. The early service of Colonel Schall was mostly in the mountains of West Virginia, and during Lee's advance on Gettysburg he was engaged in a hotly contested fight at Winchester, under General Milroy, where he lost nearly his entire command in killed, wounded and prisoners, and got into Harper's Ferry, after four days of fighting, with only sixty men and riding another colonel's horse, his own having been shot from under him while leading a charge. Colonel Schall was subsequently transferred to the army of the Potomac—3rd brigade, 3rd division, 6th army corps, and served in that command until the expiration of his term of enlistment. At the battle of Cold Harbor, Virginia, he was shot through the right arm while commanding the brigade, but remained on the field until the fight terminated, and only then sought medical attention for his injury. Colonel Schall was honorably discharged from military service October 14, 1864, and upon that occasion was the recipient of the following letter of commendation from his superior officer, General James B. Ricketts, commandant of his division:

HEADQUARTERS 3RD DIVISION, 6TH CORPS,
OFFICE ASSISTANT ADJUTANT GENERAL.

COLONEL JOHN W. SCHALL,

87TH REGIMENT, PENNSYLVANIA VOLUNTEERS.

Colonel:—Your time of service having expired with that of your gallant regiment, I cannot part with you without some expression of my high appreciation of your faithful services.

Always zealous and reliable, you have shown the best quality of a soldier, which would bring certain promotion, had you determined to remain in the corps, which you have ornamented by your distinguished conduct throughout the arduous summer campaign, since crossing the Rapidan in May last.

I particularly recall your gallantry at Cold Harbor, where commanding a brigade, and wounded, you nobly refused to leave the field, and in the Valley where you shared in our glorious victories at Opequon and Fisher's Hill.

I part with regret from so good a soldier, and wish you every success in your future life.

Very sincerely your friend,

JAMES B. RICKETTS,
Brigadier General Volunteers and Major 1st United States Artillery, commanding 3rd Division, 6th Army Corps.

Soon after returning to civil life, Colonel Schall located at Norristown, Montgomery county, and embarked in the iron trade. In April, 1875, he was appointed recorder of deeds for this county, to fill a vacancy, and was subsequently elected twice to that position, serving in all for a period of seven years. In 1890 he was appointed postmaster at Norristown by President Harrison, and served as such until 1894.

General Schall's connection with the National guard of Pennsylvania began shortly after the war. He served as inspector of the National guard under General John F. Hartranft, and after the latter's election to the governorship, was appointed an aid on the Governor's staff, with the rank of lieutenant colonel. While General Hartranft was still in command of the division, in September, 1879, General Schall was elected colonel of the 6th regiment, and was re-elected several times. In July, 1894, he was appointed brigadier general of the first brigade by Governor Pattison, and is the present commandant of that brigade.

On September 3, 1873, General Schall was united in marriage with Mary A. Hooven, a daughter of James Hooven (now deceased), of Norristown. Politically the General is an ardent Republican, and has always taken an active and intelligent interest in civic and governmental affairs, at the same time keeping himself thoroughly posted on everything pertaining to military matters. His life has been active and many-

sided, its history comprising high records as a soldier, official, business man and citizen.

General Schall is connected with the Grand Army of the Republic, and is also a member of the Masonic fraternity and the Loyal Legion.

REV. THOMAS R. BEEBER, D. D., an able divine and the present pastor of the First Presbyterian church of Norristown, is a son of Peter D. and Mary J. (Artley) Beeber, and was born at Muncy, Lycoming county, Pennsylvania, June 18, 1848. The Beeber (originally written Bieber) family trace their ancestry back to the Palatinate, Germany, and were residents of Berks county from 1764 to 1790, when several of its members removed to Lycoming county. Several of the Beebers served under Washington in the Revolutionary war. —— Beeber or Bieber, came from Germany in the ship *Jeneffer*, commanded by Captain George Kerr, and landed at Philadelphia November 6, 1764. His son, John Beeber, born near Wurtemberg, Germany, in 1762, was reared in Berks county, and served as a non-commissioned officer in the Revolutionary war. He enlisted in the 3rd Pennsylvania battalion, commanded by Colonel John Shee, was captured by the British, at Harlem Heights, November 16, 1776, but escaped six days later. He served under Colonel Daniel Undree, and in the 2nd battalion of Berks county militia at the battle of Brandywine, and was in active service until the close of the war. He was a farmer by occupation and wedded Julia Dimner, a daughter of George and Julia Dimner, of Lycoming county, Pennsylvania. John Beeber's son, Colonel Jacob Beeber, was born in Muncy valley, Lycoming county, September 10, 1786, and became a prominent and useful man. He served in the Pennsylvania militia, commanding a regiment, and was a devoted member of the Evangelical Lutheran church. He was a farmer and a strong Democrat, and married Mary and Elizabeth Dimner, by whom he had several children. His eldest son, Peter D. Beeber, was the father of Dr. Beeber. Peter D. Beeber was first engaged in farming, and afterwards became a mechanic and a retail coal dealer. He was an early opponent of slavery and often declared that "If slavery were not wrong, nothing was wrong." He became a Republican against the opposition of his family, and at the time when it required courage to do so. He took his three brothers with him into the Republican party, and in 1861 was elected as commissioner of Lycoming county, being the only Republican candidate that year in the county who was successful. Mr. Beeber was one of the founders of the Muncy Lutheran church, which was organized November 7, 1852, and with three others was its chief financial support for many years. He filled every office of his church but that of pastor. He also took interest in the municipal affairs of his borough, serving for many years as a councilman and school director. He was a man of integrity and great kindness of heart, and died May 6, 1876, in the sixty-first year of his age. On March 25, 1841, Mr. Beeber wedded Mary J. Artley, and to their union were born three sons: J. A., a lawyer, of Williamsport, this State; Dimner, an attorney-at-law, in Philadelphia; and Rev. Thomas R. Mrs. Beeber, who died December 2, 1869, aged fifty-two years, was of Holland descent, and a daughter of John and Christina (Duck) Artley. The Artley family was resident in Berks county until 1785, and Solomon Art-

ley enlisted in a military company during the war of 1812, but was never called into the field.

Thomas R. Beeber was reared at Muncy, and prepared for college at Selinsgrove, this State. He entered Pennsylvania college, at Gettysburg, Adams county, in 1865, and was graduated from that institution of learning in 1869, with the second honors of his class. In the autumn of 1869, he entered the Andover theological seminary, at Andover, Massachusetts, and was graduated in the class of 1872, after which he took the post graduate course of that institution. In January, 1873, he became associate pastor with Rev. Charles Beecher, a brother of Henry Ward Beecher, of the First Congregational church, of Georgetown, Massachusetts. He remained there for two years and then resigned to accept a call made June 8, 1875, from the Mahoning Presbyterian church, of Danville, Pennsylvania, which he served until March 8, 1880, when he accepted a call from the Second Presbyterian church, of Scranton. He remained there seven years, and during his pastorate a handsome stone church structure was erected at a cost of eighty thousand dollars by his congregation. On March 21, 1881, he received a call from the First Presbyterian church of Norristown, which he has served ever since.

On August 17, 1874, Reverend Beeber was united in marriage by Rev. Charles Beecher, to Mrs. Mary F. Haley, of Georgetown, Massachusetts, a daughter of J. K. Harriman. To Rev. and Mrs. Beeber have been born two children: John Artley, born August 22, 1875, and died January 11, 1889; and Whitman Boynton, born May 26, 1877, and died June 27, 1885. Rev. Beeber has one adopted son, K. H. Beeber, who is a child by Mrs. Beeber's first marriage.

Rev. Thomas R. Beeber spent three months in 1878 on a European tour and visited many noted and sacred places of the world. He received the degree of Doctor of Divinity from Lafayette college in 1891. He is a logical reasoner and an able speaker. Dr. Beeber has always taken an interest in church and general history. He is a member of the Montgomery county and the Philadelphia Presbyterian historical societies. While at Scranton he was elected as a director of the oral school for the deaf, and was one of the most energetic workers in its behalf. Dr. Beeber is the author of several historical works of value and interest. He wrote and published histories of the First Congregational church of Georgetown, Massachusetts, and the Second Presbyterian church of Scranton, Pennsylvania. He also wrote a pamphlet on the "History of the Presbyterian Church in the United States," that has been highly commended. Dr. Beeber is conservative, but progressive in his religious views, has always been appreciated by his different charges, and is deeply interested in the home and foreign missions of the church.

HON. IRVING PRICE WANGER, present member of the United States congress from the Seventh Pennsylvania district, is descended from early settlers of Montgomery county, of the religious sects known as Mennonites and Brethren or Dunkers. He was born March 5, 1852, in North Coventry township, Chester county, Pennsylvania, and is a son of George and Rebecca (Price) Wanger. All his ancestors in America—and the line extends over a period of nearly two centuries — were farmers. His father, the late George

Henry R. Wenger

Wanger, was a prominent citizen of the northern end of Chester county, and was known throughout that and Montgomery counties as a man of force of character, and an advocate of the improvement of the public school system. He became identified with the movement for the abolition of slavery while yet a young man, and was active in the formation of the Republican party in Pennsylvania and in its early triumphs in this State. In 1850 he married Rebecca, a daughter of Rev. John Price, and reared a family of four sons. His death occured December 30th, 1876, in the fifty-seventh year of his age.

Irving P. Wanger was reared on the old Wanger homestead in Chester county, and educated in the Public schools of his district and at the Pottstown high and Hill schools. He then taught for one year, and in 1870, became a clerk in the prothonotary's office in Chester county. In 1871 he was appointed deputy prothonotary of that county, and resigned the position at the end of the year to engage in the study of law at Norristown.

In January, 1872, he began his legal studies with Franklin March, a distinguished member of the Montgomery county bar, and on December 1st of that year was appointed deputy under Wm. F. Reed, the first Republican prothonotary ever elected in Montgomery county. Meanwhile he continued the study of law, and having completed his preparation, was admitted to the bar in December, 1875. He soon rose in his profession, and secured and has maintained a large practice, being regarded as an eloquent and logical pleader. In 1889 he formed a partnership with Irvin P. Knipe, under the firm name of Wanger and Knipe, which is now among the most prosperous legal firms in the country.

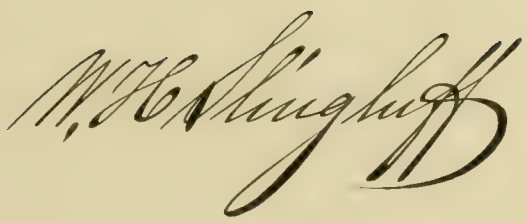
From his earliest manhood Mr. Wanger has battled for Republican supremacy. He was elected burgess of Norristown at the age of twenty-six, and was solicitor of the school board for several years. In 1880, he was elected district attorney for Montgomery county, being the first Republican ever chosen to that office in this county. As district attorney he instituted a reform in the practice of subpoenaing witnesses who had heretofore been required to attend court on the first day of the session. Mr. Wanger divided the cases among several days, requiring attendance only when the cases were set for trial, thereby effecting considerable saving in fees of witnesses, and greatly lessening the inconvenience of their attendance. The practice inaugurated by him has been uniformly followed by his successors.

In 1880 Mr. Wanger was a delegate to the National convention, and voted continuously against the unit rule, supporting Mr. Blaine in the convention until requested by friends of the latter to vote for General Garfield. In 1886 Mr. Wanger was again nominated for district attorney and was elected by a majority of one thousand one hundred and seventy-eight votes, running several hundred ahead of his ticket, notwithstanding the fact that his opponent was one of the most popular candidates the Democracy ever nominated. In 1889 Mr. Wanger was made chairman of the Republican county committee, and held that position until the end of the year, when he declined re-election. In the campaign of 1890 he was unamimously nominated for congress by the Republicans of the Seventh district and made a vigorous canvass, being defeated by only one hundred and eighty-seven votes, although so popular a candidate as Colonel Thomas J. Stewart

lost the district by nine hundred and two, and Mr. Delamater by two thousand two hundred and fourteen. In 1892 Mr. Wanger was again nominated for congress by his party, and was elected by a majority of one hundred and eighty votes. After serving with distinction in the Fifty-third congress, where he held positions on the committees on public lands and on railways and canals, he was re-nominated in 1894 and re-elected by a majority of four thousand eight hundred and twenty-six, as a member of the Fifty-fourth congress. In congress he has taken an active part in all important National legislation, particularly interesting himself in the silver bill, the tariff acts and the Indian appropriation bill. On every question he has ably and carefully represented the interests of his constituency, and for his re-election to the next congress has already received the most emphatic testimonial of regard and confidence which it is in the power of his fellow citizens of the Seventh congressional district to bestow.

On June 25th, 1884, Mr. Wanger was united in marriage to Emma C. Titlow, daughter of the late John Titlow, of North Coventry, Chester county, Pennsylvania. To them have been born five children, three of whom survive: George, Ruth and Marion. The other two, Lincoln and Rebecca, died in infancy. Mr. Wanger lives at the old Chain homestead, No. 723 Main street, Norristown, which he has modernized, making it a very unique type of architecture. His mother from whom he inherits many of his characteristics, also makes her home with him. She is a sister of the late Rev. Isaac Price, a noted and eloquent preacher of the Brethren (Dunker's) church, and the descendant of a long line of preachers of that faith. In his own religious affiliations, Mr. Wanger is an Episcopalian, being a member of St. John's Episcopal church of Norristown. He is also a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Improved Order of Red Men, and of nearly all of the Masonic bodies of this State, lately being grand commander of the Knights Templar of Pennsylvania.

JOHN SLINGLUFF, a leading business man of Montgomery county, and president of the Montgomery National bank, at Norristown, is a son of William H. and Mary (Knorr) Slingluff, and was born at Norristown, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, August 3, 1839. The European ancestor of the American Slingluff was Heinrich Schlengeluff, who went from Waldich to England and thence to America, landing in Philadelphia August 19, 1729, with his wife, whose maiden name was Anna Christianna, which indicates her Swedish descent. He purchased a tract of land in Salford township. Their son, John Slingluff, (1st in America), was the father of John Slingluff (2nd), who married Mary Hallman, a very beautiful woman, and a daughter of Anthony and Mary (Streeper) Hallman, and a great-granddaughter of William Strieper, who once owned five thousand acres of land in the northern part of Philadelphia county. John Slingluff (2nd) had eight children by this marriage, and his youngest child was William H. Slingluff, the father of the subject of this sketch. William H. Slingluff was born in Whitpain township March 19, 1805, and became prominently identified with the banking interests of the county. He entered the old Montgomery county bank (chartered in 1814, and until 1856 the only bank in the



county) in 1825, as junior clerk and watchman, was made cashier four years later, and in 1868 was elected president, which latter office he resigned November 20, 1875, in favor of his son. The same day he accepted the office of vice-president and served as such until his death, which occurred April 14, 1880. In 1861 he was instrumental in having the bank loan Governor Curtin (the war Governor of Pennsylvania) fifty thousand dollars in gold for the purpose of paying the volunteers in the field. He also designed and built the present fine bank building in 1854. He was one of the originators and the first treasurer of the Norristown water company and a director of the gas company, was connected with the three first building and loan associations of this borough, and in various ways aided different worthy enterprises and commendable industries. He was a Whig up to 1860, and after that year joined the Democratic party. He was the candidate for congress on the Whig ticket in 1844, but was defeated. He served for many years as a member of the town council and the school board, of which he was treasurer. He was a public spirited man, and besides his business affairs, was a warm supporter of every movement looking to the public good. Thus when the Philadelphia, Germantown and Norristown railroad, the first in the State and county, was projected, he took stock and became a director of the company in 1844, continuing as such until his death in 1880. This project was looked upon by many business men as an unpaying enterprise, whose stock once fell in price from $50 to $1 per share, but later advanced to $240, and is now rated at $126. Mr. Slingluff was quick in perception, accurate in judgment and firm in carrying out his convictions. One well acquainted with him wrote of him "In business life he was an example of the highest integrity of character, and demanded the same qualities in others." He was generous, charitable and kind hearted, and assisted all in distress who came to him. William H. Slingluff, in 1833, wedded Mary Knorr, and to their union were born five children: Sarah S., wife of Jacob L. Rex; Clara S., married Dr. Henry Pawling, and after his death wedded Hiram H. Fisher, who is now dead; Mary M., wife of Hon. A. B. Longaker; John, (4th) (subject); and William F., a steam pipe manufacturer of Norristown. Mrs. W. H. Slingluff, who died November 17, 1891, was a daughter of Mathias Knorr, and a great-granddaughter of John Genge and Hannah Knorr, who came from Germany prior to 1698. Mathias Knorr wedded Mary Keyser, a direct descendant of Dirck or Derick Keyser, who came from Amsterdam, Holland, in 1688, and was one of the original settlers of Germantown, a suburb of Philadelphia.

John Slingluff was reared at Norristown, received his education in the public schools and Elmwood institute, at that time under charge of Rev. George Dering Wolf. Leaving school at the age of sixteen, in 1855, he commenced surveying and conveyancing under J. Morton Albertson. Eighteen months later, in December, 1856, he quit surveying and became note clerk in the old Bank of Montgomery county, where he was promoted to cashier November 7, 1868, and elected president November 20, 1875. He has served continuously as president since 1875. Mr. Slingluff inherited his father's remarkable business ability, and is prominently connected with nearly every leading business enterprise of the county. He is president of the Norristown Water company and treasurer of the Norristown Gas and Cemetery companies. He is also treasurer

of the Montgomery Lead and Zinc Mining company and the Second Savings Fund and Loan association. He is president of the Norristown Junction Railroad company, and until January, 1895, of the Citizen's Passenger Railroad company, and a director of the Plymouth, Perkiomen, Stony Creek, Philadelphia Germantown and Norristown, and the Philadelphia, Newtown and New York Railroad companies. He was a trustee for three years of the Norristown asylum for the insane, succeeding General Hartranft in that position in 1889; has been for eighteen years an inspector of the Montgomery county prison and for fifteen years president of the board. Mr. Slingluff was a Democrat in politics up to 1884, since which year he has supported the Republican party. He was nominated in 1880 for congress but was defeated, although running ahead of his ticket. He is a director of the Norristown Woolen company, the Times printing company and president of the Economy Insurance company. He has served as president of the Montgomery Fire company, and is now chief engineer. He is also treasurer of the Firemen's Association of Pennsylvania, and is an ex-president of the school board of Norristown. During the late Civil war in 1863, when Lee invaded Pennsylvania, he dropped all his business affairs and enlisted in Company E, 34th regiment, "Emergency Men," and served until the regiment was mustered out in August, 1863, after the Gettysburg battle. Mr. Slingluff is a prominent and active Mason, being a member and past officer of Charity Lodge No. 190, Free and Accepted Masons, Norristown; Chapter 190, Royal Arch Masons; Hutchinson Commandery No. 32, Knights Templar, is a life member of Gourgas Consistory, 32d Degree A. & A. Rite, of Pittsburg, this State, and Palestine Council No. 8, Royal and Select Masters. Besides being a member of the Grand Lodge, Chapter, Council and Commandery of the State, he served for several years as district deputy grand high priest, and is the oldest consecutive member of the finance committee of the Grand Lodge. He is treasurer and a trustee of his lodge, has been the representative of the Grand Lodges of Georgia and West Virginia, in addition to his own lodge in the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania.

John Slingluff is a man of positive and practical business ability, and has won his way to position side by side with the foremost business men of his section of the State. In religious opinion he is a supporter of the Protestant Episcopal church, of which Mrs. Slingluff is an active and useful member.

On September 3, 1862, Mr. Slingluff married Wilhelmina Gilbert, a daughter of Frederick and Mary Gilbert, of Norristown. Mr. and Mrs. Slingluff have three children: Mary S., wife of Howard Boyd, of Norristown; William Hermann, cashier of the Montgomery National bank; and Helen Gilbert Slingluff. They have but one grand child, James S. Boyd.

GENERAL WILLIAM M. MINTZER is a veteran of the Civil war whose record is unique in several particulars. He enlisted as a private and won his way step by step to the rank of brevet brigadier general. General Mintzer is a native of Chester county Pennsylvania, where he was born June 7, 1837. He is the oldest son of Henry and Rebecca (Bechtel) Mintzer, and his education was obtained principally in the public schools of Pottstown, to which

W. H. Mintzer

place his father had removed from Chester county, and where General Mintzer has resided ever since the war. When twenty years of age he began learning the trade of machinist. As his apprenticeship of four years was expiring, the opening thunders of the Civil war electrified the land, and young Mintzer dropped his tools, like Putnam left his plow, and hastened to enlist in defense of his country. It is said he was the first man from Pottstown to respond to the call for volunteers. He first enlisted for three months as a private in Company C, 4th Pennsylvania infantry, and was shortly afterward made quartermaster sergeant of his regiment. In August, 1861, he reenlisted as first lieutenant of Company A, 53rd Pennsylvania infantry, and from that position was promoted in regular order through all the grades until he reached the rank of brevet-brigadier general. With his various commands, General Mintzer participated in the following engagements: Yorktown, Fair Oaks, Gaines' Mills, Peach Orchard, Savage Station, White Oak Swamp, Malvern Hill, Antietam, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, Bristo Station, Mine Run, the Wilderness, Spottsylvania, North Anna, Tatopotomy, Cold Harbor, Petersburg, Strawberry Plains, Deep Bottom, Ream's Station, Hatcher's Run (south side railroad,) Farmville and Appomattox. This record shows that General Mintzer was something of a fighter when fighting was to be done. During all this time he was never captured by the enemy, and was wounded only twice—first at Fair Oaks and again at Fredericksburg. Neither injury proved serious, and soon after the battle of Fredericksburg he was detailed as provost marshal of the First Division, Second Army Corps, then Commanded by General Hancock. When General Hancock took command of the Second Corps, Captain Mintzer with Companies A, B and K of his regiment, accompanied him, and remained on duty at headquarters of Second Army Corps until April, 1864, when at his own request, he rejoined his regiment and served with it until mustered out June 30th, 1865, by reason of the close of the war, having commanded the regiment from July, 1864. His war record covers the entire period from the first call for troops to the close of that gigantic struggle which has taken its place in history as the greatest armed conflict of modern times.

After the war closed General Mintzer returned to Pottstown and engaged in the confectionery business. In 1869 he was appointed postmaster of this city, by President Grant, and served as such during both administrations of Grant. He was appointed for the third term, but declined the office in order to engage in the coal business here, which he has ever since successfully conducted.

On the 5th of February, 1863, General Mintzer was united in marriage to Amelia Weand, eldest daughter of David and Matilda Weand, of Pottstown. To General and Mrs. Mintzer were born four children—three sons and a daughter—George M, Helen, deceased, August 21st, 1894, at the age of twenty-six, John H. and Charles F. General Mintzer is a member of the Lutheran church, and is also connected with the Masonic fraternity, the Grand Army of the Republic, the Union Veteran Legion and Military order of the Loyal Legion.

The family of which General Mintzer is descended is among the oldest in Pennsylvania. His paternal grandfather, William Mintzer, was a stage line owner prior to the construction of the Reading railroad, and

afterward engaged in merchandising at Pottstown. Henry Mintzer, father of General William Mintzer, was a farmer and merchant, and a Republican. For several years he resided in Chester county, but subseqnently removed to Pottstown, this county. He was a very ardent Union man, and in 1861 was appointed postmaster of Pottstown by President Lincoln. He held that office until removed by Andrew Johnson.

JACOB FEGELY, president of the National Iron bank, and a prominent business man of Pottstown, is a son of Jacob Sr. and Susan (Miller) Fegely and was born in Washington township, Berks county, Pennsylvania, September 23rd, 1831.

Jacob Fegely, Sr., was born in Douglas township, Montgomery county, January 5, 1795, and died January 17, 1878, aged 83 years. He was a farmer by occupation, and a member of the Evangelical Lutheran church in which he was an officer and zealous worker. He was a Democrat politically, and wedded Susan Miller, who was a daughter of Peter Miller, of Douglass township, and passed away February 14, 1876, aged 79 years. Their children were: Maria, who married Reuben Fryer, and is deceased; Solomon, now dead; William, is living; Isaac, now dead; Jacob; Catherine, who married William Swineheart and is now dead; Lucinda, wife of Milton Slonaker, and one son who died in infancy.

Jacob Fegely was brought at twelve years of age by his parents to Pottsgrove township, where he grew to manhood on his father's farm. He attended the schools of his neighborhood and then learned the trade of millwright which he followed steadily for five and one half years. At the end of that time, on February 1, 1853, he embarked in the retail coal and iron business, and in 1856 he added the lumber business.

Five years later he helped to organize the railroad car building firm of Evans, Fegely and Co. In 1862 Mr. Evans withdrew and the firm became Fegely and Co., which continued up to 1864, when they disposed of their car works, and Mr. Fegely, who was still in the retail coal and lumber business, engaged in the manufacture of lumber upon an extended scale. He purchased in Columbia county, large tracts of timber land which he cut, sawed and worked up into lumber for the eastern markets. After being activeiy engaged in the lumbering business for twelve years, he turned his attention to the mining of iron-ore, and in July, 1872, became a partner in the firm of Gable, Fegely and Jones, of which he was elected treasurer. Their mines were in Berks county, and in 1873 they sold to the Warwick Iron company, in which Mr. Fegely became interested and was elected to his present position of treasurer. During all this time he still dealt in coal, lumber and iron, and continued on in that line until 1866, when he disposed of his mills and lumber yard. He then more directly interested himself in business operations at Pottstown which he has continued up to the present time. In 1886 he associated with him his son, Calvin, under the firm name of J. Fegely & Son, and opened a large wholesale and retail hardware and mill supply establishment and extensive coal yard. In 1886 he was elected to his present position as president of the National Iron bank of Pottstown, and in the succeeding year, 1887, became president of the

Pottstown Security company, while two years later, in 1889, he was elected president of the South Bethlehem National bank. He helped to organize these three financial institutions of which he is president, and the immense amount of work which their management placed upon him did not take up all his time.

He then became interested in other enterprises. He is president of the Bramcote Land company and the Pottstown Cemetery company; a director in the Pottstown Market, and the Pottstown Light, Heat and Power companies; also treasurer of the Bannockburn mills and a large stockholder in the Warwick Iron, and the Pottstown Water companies, and on January 1, 1893, was appointed receiver in connection with William M. Gordon, of the Pottstown Iron company. He is one of the largest real estate owners at Pottstown, and has a valuable farm in Chester county, which he personally supervises.

Jacob Fegely is an independent Democrat in politics. He is a member of Emmanuel's Lutheran church, of which he has been treasurer for twenty-five years. He is a member of the board of trustees of Muhlenberg college, and Mt. Airy Theological seminary, and a director of the Pottstown hospital. Mr. Fegely is one of that class of practical, energetic and methodical business men, who give life and prosperity to all financial and industrial enterprises with which they are engaged, and whose success in every field is the assured result of good management and careful foresight.

On Christmas, 1853, Mr. Fegely married Mary A. Hunsberger, a daughter of John Hunsberger, of Chester county. To their union have been born seven children, of whom four are dead: Jacob Edgar, George B. McC., Annie and Clara. The three that are living are: Calvin, a partner in business with his father; Mary R., wife of George W. Gilbert; and Susan B., wife of Dr. Charles Vanderslice, of Phoenixville, Chester county.

HON. HIRAM CONRAD HOOVER, ex-member of the Pennsylvania legislature and the last associate judge of the courts of Montgomery county, is a son of Hon. Philip and May Mary (Conrad) Hoover, and was born in Gwynedd township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, October 23, 1822. Between 1727 and 1776, several immigrants by the name of Huber came from the Palatine, Switzerland, and landed at Philadelphia. Of this number were four brothers, Christian, John, Martin and Jacob, who came in the ship *Pink Plesance*, commanded by John Paret. These brothers landed on September 21, 1732, and at that time Jacob was under sixteen years of age. These four brothers were the only ones of all immigrant Hubers that changed their name from Huber to Hoover. One brother went to western Pennsylvania, another to Lancaster county, the third to one of the southern states, and Jacob, the youngest, seems to have been the Jacob Hoover, who bought a farm in Plumstead township, Bucks county, in 1748. While family records cannot be found, yet there is sufficient evidence to establish the fact that Jacob Hoover was the father of Henry Hoover and the great grandfather of Judge Hoover. Henry Hoover was born in 1751, in Bucks county, where he married Margaret Kern. He moved in 1797 from Hilltown township, Bucks county, to Gwynedd township, Montgomery county, where he

purchased a farm of two hundred acres. He was a Jeffersonian Democrat and a member of the Reformed church, and a man of great will power. When troops were ordered out to suppress the Fries Rebellion in eastern Pennsylvania, one regiment of infantry sought to take his buildings as temporary quarters, but he refused with such determination that they went to an adjoining farm. Henry Hoover died April 9, 1809, aged fifty-seven years, and his widow passed away November 27, 1813, at sixty-two years of age. They had five children: Christian, Jacob, Hon. Philip, Elizabeth, who married John Rile, and Mary, wife of William Kneedler. Hon. Philip Hoover became the owner of one-half of the home farm, and his life is well described by his son, Judge Hiram C. Hoover, in a paper read at a reunion of the children of Frederick W. Hoover, on New Year's day, 1895, at Hooverton, and from it we quote: "While I do not propose to write my father's biography at this time, I will note some things in his life that may not be known to many of his descendants. First I will mention the fact that what education he received in his youth was in the German language, and after his marriage, was taught to read and write English by my mother, who had received a good education in both languages. He became a member of a volunteer organization when but eighteen years old, thus manifesting a military spirit, and rose from the ranks to be captain, and during the War of 1812–'14, he served as lieutenant of another company for three months (as the organization to which he formerly belonged disbanded). He really had command of this company, for the captain returned home soon after being mustered into service. He also furnished a team to convey military stores and ammunition from Philadelphia to Marcus Hook. He was afterwards elected colonel of a regiment of militia. He filled many offices in the township, such as assessor, collector of taxes, etc., and in 1831–'32–'33 was elected a member of the State legislature, where he served on several important committees, and discharged his duty with credit and satisfaction to his constituents—all the positions having sought him, as he did not aspire to them. He also settled many estates as executor, administrator and guardian, in all of which he rendered satisfactory accounts. He was regularly catechised and received into Boehm's Reformed church by the Rev. George Wack, pastor, and in the year 1810 was elected a deacon, and served in that office until 1823, when he was elected an elder, and continued in that office (except three years) until his death in the year 1865—a period of over forty years. He held the office of president and treasurer of the consistory during several years; was also frequently a delegate of the classis and the synod. He was born July 20th, 1782, and was married to Mary Conrad November 13th, 1804. They were the parents of thirteen children, but only six reached the age of maturity. Mary Conrad Hoover, daughter of Hon. Frederick Conrad (who was a member of congress for four years) was born August 23rd, 1785; died October 17th, 1868, aged eighty-three years, one month and twenty-four days."

Their children were: Frederick W., Julian, Susanna, Maria, Henry C., Ann Catharine, Judge Hiram C., Albert C., Ann Elizabeth, Andrew J., and two sons and one daughter that died in infancy.

Judge Hiram C. Hoover received his education in common and select schools, and then studied surveying. Possessing fine musical talent, he began to teach music and

organize church choirs at an early age. After leaving school and while teaching music, he engaged in farming, which he followed until 1872. In 1849 he bought a part of the St. Clair estate in Norriton township, and when the Stony Creek railroad, in 1872, was built through a part of his land, his neighbors insisted upon his building grain and mercantile stores where the railroad crossed Germantown turnpike. He did so and then founded Hooverton, which has absorbed Penn Square and gives promise of future importance. He soon retired from these lines of business, and the feed, coal and lumber business is now in the hands of his son William A., where the general mercantile establishment is conducted by his son-in-law, Albertus Hallman. Judge Hoover now lives a retired life, except what time he gives to his interests as a stockholder in several industrial enterprises. He has served as guardian for the heirs of eighteen estates, and not a single exception has ever been filed to any estate account he ever presented. He is now serving his twentieth year as treasurer of the Philadelphia classis, whose financial matters include seven different accounts, which have been found correct by the finance committee each year. In early life Judge Hoover took interest in military affairs. He was a member of the First Troop of Montgomery cavalry sixteen years, and in 1861 sought to reorganize the troop for active service in the war, but was prevented by circumstances beyond his control. He has been active and useful in civil, educational and religious affairs, and has done much toward the development and upbuilding of his section of the county. He is a Democrat in politics and has filled many of the most important political offices of his county. He served as a member of the Pennsylvania house of representatives in 1861, 1862 and in 1863, and during his three consecutive terms served on many leading committees, having been chairman of the committee on agriculture in 1863. In 1865 he was elected associate judge of Montgomery county, and in 1870 was elected for a second term which ended in 1875, when the office was abolished by the state constitution of 1874. In his township he served as a justice of the peace for fifteen years and as a school director for seventeen years, while in his party he was made chairman of the county committee for three successive years. Judge Hoover has served as a trustee of Ursinus, and Franklin and Marshall colleges, and has been president of the Norristown and Central Square Turnpike company from its organization in 1868. In 1844, when the Philadelphia riots occurred, he served as an officer in the First Troop of Montgomery county, one of the companies that suppressed them. He is an old and prominent Mason, being a member of Charity Lodge No. 190, Free and Accepted Masons; a life member of Chapter No. 190, Royal Arch Masons; also a charter member of No. 32, Knights Templar. Judge Hoover has been an elder in Boehm's Reformed church since 1856, has been president of the consistory during all the time except two years, and frequently served as a delegate to various church bodies. But among his most important religious work must be named the instruction of different Bible classes and the efficient supervision of several Sunday-schools in which noble labors he has spent many arduous but happy hours, during a period of forty-five years of continuous service.

On March 4, 1847, Judge Hoover wedded Margaret Dull, youngest daughter of Frederick and Sarah Dull, of Whitemarsh town-

ship. To Judge and Mrs. Hoover were born four children: Wm. A., Irvin W., now dead; Sarah D., married Jas. W. Hercus, of Washington city, and died March 18, 1894; and Mary M., who married Alebrtus Hallman, a leading business man of Hooverton.

He is also a member of the Historical Society of Montgomery county and has been president for the last six years, was president of the Agricultural society of Montgomery county for three years and an active member during its existence, and has taken active part in various literary societies that have been organized in the neighborhood.

HARRY H. WHITCOMB, M. D., Ph. D., of Norristown, was born in the city of Philadelphia on the third of October, 1855, and is a son of John and Harriet H. (Huston) Whitcomb. His paternal ancestors have been resident of Eastern Pennsylvania for four generations, coming originally from Swampscott, near Boston, Massachusetts, at which place the American branch of the family was founded by emigrants from England. John Whitcomb, sr., (grandfather) was born in Montgomery county. He was a farmer, blacksmith and tradesman, and wedded Elizabeth Jenkins, a daughter of John Jenkins, from whom Jenkintown derives its name. He was retired during the latter years of his life and died at Centre Square in 1870.

John Whitcomb, junior, was born at Dresherstown, Pennsylvania, in 1817. He followed farming for a few years and then became a veterinary surgeon, being among the oldest of that class of professional men in Montgomery county. He is a Democrat and has resided for many years at Centre Square. He wedded Harriet H. Huston, and of the seven children born to them, Albanus S., Dr. Harry H., Laura V., Anna D. and H. Belle grew to maturity and are still living. Mrs. John Whitcomb is of Scotch-Welsh ancestry and her father, Captain John Huston, served as a commissioned officer in the war of 1812. The Hustons have been resident in the county for nearly two centuries and are of the same stock as General Samuel Houston of Texas.

Dr. Harry Huston Whitcomb, although born in Philadelphia, was reared at Blue Bell and Centre Square and received his education in the public schools and the Millersville State Normal School. At the age of fifteen years he began his career and leaving school taught for three years; he then followed merchandising for a year but neither of these pursuits being congenial, he resolved upon the profession of Medicine as a life vocation. He read under Dr. Wm. Pepper, ex-Provost of the University of Pa., and in 1877 entered the medical department of that university, from which he was graduated in the year 1880, with the degrees of M. D. and Ph. D. In September of his graduating year he located at Norristown where he has since continued to practice. He was Health Officer from 1888 to 1893 and then became President of the Board of Health. He has been a member of the Committee of County Visitors for the State Board of Charities for thirteen years and visiting physician to the St. Joseph's Protectory for six years. He is an ex-officer of the Pennsylvania State Medical Society, having served as second vice president in 1892. He was president for one year of the Montgomery County Medical Society and secretary for six years, which latter office he still retains. He is a member of the New Jersey State Medical Society and of

the American Medical Association. He has been a member of the United States Board of Pension Examiners for Montgomery county for ten years, during three of which he has served as its president. In all of these various and responsible offices Dr. Whitcomb has served efficiently.

Dr. Whitcomb, who is popular as a physycian, has a large and lucrative practice. Politically he is a Democrat, but on local matters he has been Independent, supporting men and measures for borough progress without reference to party. He is a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Norristown, and holds membership in the American Legion of Honor.

JAMES B. HOLLAND, district attorney of the Thirty-eighth judicial district of Pennsylvania, and senior member of the well know law firm of Holland and Dettra, of Norristown, is a native of Montgomery county, and was born in Gwynedd township, November 14, 1858. His parents were James and Sarah (Miller) Holland, the former a native of England and the latter born in Marlboro township, this county, of Dutch ancestry. The subject of this sketch was reared in Gwynedd township and at Spring Hill. His preliminary education was obtained in the public schools of his native township, and in 1874 he entered the High school at Conshohocken, from which institution he was graduated in the spring of 1877, under R. F. Hoffecker, then principal of that school but now superintendent of instruction for Montgomery county. Immediately after graduating, Mr. Holland began teaching, and was thus employed for a period of three years in the State of Virginia and afterward for a time at Lafayette, this county. In 1881 the Republicans carried Montgomery county, and on February 1, 1882, Mr. Holland was appointed clerk of the board of commissioners by James Burnett, which position he filled acceptably until May 1, 1887. While in the commissioner's office he applied his spare time to the study of law, under the direction of Hon. Aaron S. Swartz, and having passed the usual examination, was duly admitted to the bar of Montgomery county in December, 1886. In May following, he resigned his clerkship in the commissioner's office and was appointed solicitor for the county commissioners, which position he held until January, 1893. At the former time, 1887, he opened a law office at Conshohocken, and has been continuously engaged ever since in the active practice of his profession. As a lawyer he has been connected with a number of important civil and criminal cases, and his management and pleading have given him recognition as one of the rising young lawyers of the bar of this county. In 1891 he formed a law partnership with Mr. John M. Dettra, under the firm name of Holland and Dettra, and they have a large general and lucrative practice.

Mr. Holland is a Republican in politics. He has always taken an active interest in political matters, and served as chairman of the Republican county committee in 1890. For several years previous he had been one of its secretaries, and has frequently borne a prominent part in the conventions of his party and has advocated its principles as a public speaker since 1886. In 1892 Mr. Holland was nominated and elected district attorney of Montgomery county—the Thirty-eight judicial district of the State—and is now discharging the duties of that important office. He served

for three years as a school director of Conshohocken, and is a director of the Norristown Title Trust and Safe Deposit company, and of the Conshohocken Tube works. In religious belief he is an Episcopalian, and is a regular attendant of the Calvary Episcopal church of Conshohocken, of which his wife is a member. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity—lodge, chapter and commandery—and is also connected with a number of political and social organizations, in all of which he is popular.

On November 14, 1883, Mr. Holland was united in marriage to Lydia Sheard, a daughter of Luke Sheard, of Norristown, Pennsylvania. To Mr. and Mrs. Holland have been born two children, both sons: Winfield S. and J. Burnett.

James Holland, the father of the subject of the foregoing sketch, was born in England about 1820, the son of a Lincolnshire farmer, who lived and died in that country. When about four years of age he was brought by relatives to the United States, and was reared and educated in Pennsylvania. He was connected as an employee with the iron works of eastern Pennsylvania during most of his life, though his first employment was farming. Originally a Democrat, he became a Republican at the time of the Civil war, and ever afterward supported that party. He was an industrious man of good habits, though not a member of any church, and died at Conshohocken, this county, in 1884. In 18— he married Sarah Miller, a daughter of Henry Miller, of Marlboro township, and by that union had a family of fourteen children, of whom James B. Holland was the eighth. Mrs. Holland was a member of the Lutheran church, and died in 1880, aged fifty-nine years. Of their fourteen children, only eight now survive.

WILLIAM McDERMOTT, for twenty-one years the cashier of the First National bank of Conshohocken, is the second son and only surviving child of William and Mary (McCorkell) McDermott, and was born September 1, 1825, in Upper Merion township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania. The family is of direct Irish descent, both parties having been born and reared on the Emerald Isle. They emigrated to America early in the present century and settled in this country. The father was a weaver by occupation, an old school Presbyterian in religious faith, and took an active interest in church and temperance work. He died May 4, 1838, and his wife passed from earth February, 1852. They reared a family of six children, of whom only the subject of this sketch now survives. Mary, married Samuel Griffith, of Norristown; James, married Nannie Irwin, of New Lisbon, Ohio; Martha, Margaret, Alexander and William.

William McDermott was reared at Norristown, this county, where he obtained a good common school education, and in 1839, at the age of fourteen, entered the employ of James Hagan, a merchant of Norristown, as clerk and salesman. He remained with Mr. Hagan until the latter quit business in 1841, and in September of the following year became an apprentice in the office of the Norristown *Herald*, where he worked at the case beside Judge Butler, late of the United States District court, who was then one of the editors of the paper, the other being Robert Iredell. After a service of six years on the *Herald*, as a compositor and local reporter, Mr. McDermott became an employee on the Montgomery *Watchman*, and remained two years with the latter journal. In May, 1850, he entered the bank of Montgomery

county as book-keeper, but was soon promoted to the position of teller, which post he held uninterruptedly until 1873, when he resigned to accept the office of cashier in the First National bank of Conshohocken, then just organized. Mr. McDermott was largely instrumental in the organization of this bank, which began business March 13, 1873, and its success has been due in no small degree to his ability, energy and sound financial management. He continued to discharge the duties of cashier until October, 1894, when failing health compelled his resignation, and he has since practically retired from active business. His career has been one of unusual activity, and in addition to its main features as outlined above, he has been connected with many other business enterprises, and has employed his talents in literary, religious and temperance work. While residing in Norristown he was treasurer of several building associations, secretary of the Norristown Water company, and secretary of the Norristown Library company, which position he has held continuously since 1859. At Conshohocken he was treasurer of the Conshohocken Gas company, a member of the town council and a member of the school board for a number of years.

In religion Mr. McDermott adheres to the faith of his father, and is a strict Presbyterian. He connected himself with that church in 1843, was made a ruling elder of the Central Presbyterian church of Norristown in 1855, and served as superintendent of the Sunday-school connected with the Central Presbyterian church here for a period of twenty years. For three years he was treasurer of the State Sunday-school association of Pennsylvania, and became widely known as an earnest and successful Sunday-school worker. To him belongs the honor of having been the first news reporter in the county. He began writing for the press when eighteen years of age, and has continued to do more or less journalistic work all his life. During the Civil war he edited the *National Defender* of Norristown, while its owner was serving in the army, and later was editor of the *Independent* for a number of years. He has been a correspondent of the *Herald*, over the *nom de plume* of "Vidi," since 1848, and for seventeen years contributed regularly to the Montgomery *Ledger*, besides many contributions to other local and national journals. In addition to his newspaper work he wrote an historical sketch on the subject of banking for the Montgomery Historical society, and prepared a paper on "Currency" for the National Bankers' association, in which he proposed a system of "low rate bonds as a basis for circulation," which system was afterward recommended by the comptroller of the currency.

On November 23, 1854, Mr. McDermott was married to Elizabeth Campbell, a daughter of Alexander and Martha Campbell, a descendant of the famous Campbells of Scotland. By this union he had two daughters: Ida and Bertha, both now deceased. Mrs. Elizabeth McDermott died October 7, 1874, from the effects of injuries received by her dress catching fire, and six years later, June 23, 1880, Mr. McDermott was again married, wedding for his second wife Ellen Davis, a daughter of Benjamin and Hannah Davis, of Chester county.

In politics Mr. McDermott was an old line Whig until the formation of the Republican party in Pennsylvania, since which time he has been a staunch adherent of that political organization. He was secretary of a Henry Clay club in Norristown before

he had reached his majority, and has always taken an active and intelligent interest in political affairs. For half a century he has discussed party questions in the public prints and been recognized as one of the best posted men in Montgomery county. At one time his name was mentioned as a candidate for the State senate from this district.

FRANK M. HOBSON, president of the Perkiomen and Reading Turnpike company, is a son of Francis and Mary M. (Bringhurst) Hobson, and was born near Royer's Ford, in Limerick township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, January 22, 1830. His first American ancestor was Francis Hobson, Sr., who was an English Quaker or member of the Society of Friends, and came from England either with Penn or shortly afterwards. Francis Hobson, Sr., first settled in Chester county, and, in 1743, came to Limerick township, where he purchased the valuable farm of two hundred and sixty-eight acres of land that has been in the possession of his descendants until 1852. Francis Hobson died in 1748, and the farm came in possession of his son, Francis Hobson, Jr., who died in 1791, and left to his sons, Moses and John Hobson, the latter being the father of Francis Hobson, who died in 1831. Francis Hobson, who inherited the farm, was born October 10th, 1803, and like his father, grandfather and great-grandfather before him, followed farming. He served as a Union soldier in the late civil war, and died August 24, 1874, when in the seventy-first year of his age. He married Mary A. Bringhurst, a daughter of Israel Bringhurst, and to their union were born two children: Frank M. (sketch); and Sarah H., who married D. D. Detwiler, M. D., and after his death married Rev. Henry W. Super, D. D., LL. D.

Frank M. Hobson was reared on the old homestead, received his education at Washington Hall school, Trappe, and at eighteen years of age removed to the Trappe, where he taught school and followed farming for eight years. He then, in 1856, came to Collegeville, where he was engaged in the mercantile business until 1880, since which time he has lived partly a retired life. During his active business life at Collegeville, he did a large amount of surveying and conveyancing, besides settling sixteen estates, one of which was that of his uncle, Wright A. Bringhurst, who left one hundred and ten thousand dollars for the benefit of the worthy poor of Norristown and Pottstown boroughs and the township of Upper Providence. Mr. Hobson also served during that time as postmaster and treasurer of the Building and Loan association of Collegeville; as auditor and school director of his township; and as director of the First National bank of Norristown, and the Iron bank of Phoenixville, Chester county. With retirement from steady business, Mr. Hobson has not sought withdrawal from business entirely, and is still depended upon by his fellow citizens to fill several positions of trust and responsibility. He has been a trustee of the Bringhurst trust since its establishment; secretary and treasurer of Ursinus college, and a director of the Perkiomen and Reading Turnpike company, and the First National bank of Norristown for nearly twenty years.

On October 8, 1856, Mr. Hobson was united in marriage with Lizzie Gotwaltz, a daughter of Jacob and Hester (Vanderslice) Gotwaltz, of this county. Mr. and Mrs. Hobson have two children, a son

and a daughter: Freeland G. and Mary M. Freeland G. Hobson, a graduate of Ursinus college, and a lawyer of Norristown, married Ella M. Hendricks, and has three children: Frank H., Anna M. and Catharine. Mary M. Hobson married Rev. O. P. Smith, D. D., who is now pastor of the Lutheran church of the Transfiguration of Pottstown, and was pastor of the old historic Trappe Lutheran church for fifteen years.

In politics Frank M. Hobson is an Independent Republican. He was originally a Democrat, but left the Democratic party in 1855, on account of its seeking to force slavery into the free territories. Since 1855 he has been an Independent Republican, and was opposed to the Republican party granting the right of suffrage to the negro until he was qualified by nature and education to exercise it. To-day Mr. Hobson thinks that past developments show that his position on negro suffrage was the correct one. Mr. Hobson is a deacon of Trinity Reformed church of Collegeville, of which Mrs. Hobson is a member. He has been secretary of the consistory for over thirty-two years, and has served as a Sunday-school teacher for nearly half a century.

REV. JAMES D. HUNTER, pastor of the Central Presbyterian church of Norristown, is a son of George and Rosanna (Harkless) Hunter, and is a native of Ohio, the sons of which State are found among the prominent citizens of every State in the Union. His parents were natives of Western Pennsylvania, and his grandparents emigrated to this country from the historic north of Ireland, whose sturdy and intellectual people have been such an important factor in the settlement of the United States.

Rev. James D. Hunter was reared in eastern Indiana and central Ohio, attended Savannah Academy, in Ashland county, Ohio, and in 1874, entered Lafayette college, Easton, Pa., from which well known educational institution he was graduated in the class of 1878. Immediately after graduation he entered Union Theological seminary, of New York city, and after spending two years in that institution he received a call from the Presbyterian church of Dearfield, New Jersey, and was ordained to the ministry and installed as its pastor on November 30, 1880. With that church he labored until the fall of 1883, when he accepted a call from the Presbyterian church at Greencastle, Franklin county, Pennsylvania. In his second field of pastoral labor he worked for nearly nine years, and then came to Norristown, where he had been called to take charge of the Central Presbyterian church of that place. He entered upon his pastoral labors at Norristown on May 15, 1892, and has broken the bread of life for his people there ever since.

On December 25, 1879, Rev. James D. Hunter was united in marriage with Anna M. Hess, a daughter of Mrs. Jane and the late Jacob Hess, of Phillipsburg, New Jersey.

Rev. Hunter is clear and logical in his discourses, and always commands close and respectful attention. While at Greencastle he delivered an address, at the centennial celebration of the formation of Franklin county, that was so highly appreciated that it was published in pamphlet form. The address was entitled the "Religious Denominations of Franklin County." A number of his sermons have also been

published by request. The Philadelphia *Ledger* recently publishing one on the Trinity, accompanied by an excellent portrait. Mr. Hunter takes quite an interest in civil and municipal affairs, and believes that the social condition of the people can be elevated by an intelligent use of the right of citizenship. In church matters he has been especially interested in the Christian Endeavor society, and as chairman of the Standing committee on Young people's societies in the Presbytery of Philadelphia North has labored zealously and effectively for the Endeavor cause and the promotion of its worthy aims. In 1889 he served as commissioner from the Presbytery of Carlisle to the General Assembly that met that year in Dr. Howard Crosby's church in New York city. In his religious views Rev. Hunter is conservative, with liberal and progressive tendencies. He is an interested student of the theological and social questions of the day, and is a firm believer in the largest liberty to scholarly investigation. His present pastoral relations with his people are pleasant and helpful, and his congregation is one of strength and intelligence.

WILLIAM H. ECK, M. D., chief burgess of Pottstown, was born in 1854, in the eastern part of Berks county, Pennsylvania. He is descended in a direct line from that historic John Eck, who took a prominent part in the wars attending the great Reformation started by Martin Luther in 1517. John Eck, paternal great-grandfather of Dr. Eck, and a lineal descendant of the John Eck above referred to, was born and reared in Manheim, Germany, from whence he came to America and settled in Berks county, Pennsylvania. The grandfather and father of Dr. Eck were both natives of Berks county, and both were extensive farmers. The grandfather, John Eck, lived to a ripe old age, but the father, Benneville Eck, enlisted in the Federal army early in 1863, and was soon afterward taken prisoner by the Confederates. It is presumed that he died in prison and was buried with the unknown, as he never returned and no record of him could be found.

William H. Eck attended Mount Pleasant seminary at Boyertown, and subsequently entered Jefferson Medical college, Philadelphia, from which institution he was graduated in 1875. He then entered the medical department of the university of New York, and after being graduated from that department in 1879, sailed for Germany and spent one year in the medical department of the university of Berlin, where he completed the regular course in 1881. Returning to America, Dr. Eck began practice the same year at Pottstown. Being an extremely hard worker, and conscientious in the discharge of his professional duties, he soon won the confidence of the public, and rapidly built up a general practice which for several years has been second to none in Montgomery county. It is said that in the thirteen years of his practice Dr. Eck has taken but six weeks rest from active work.

In 1891 Dr. Eck was elected a member of the town council of Pottstown, on the Democratic ticket, from the west ward, and served as such until 1894. During this time he was honored with the chairmanship of several of the most responsible and important committees. In the spring of 1894 Dr. Eck was elected chief burgess of the borough, a position for which his active

W. H. Eck. M. D.

work in the councils had eminently fitted him.

Ever since he became a citizen of Pottstown, Dr. Eck has taken an active part in public affairs, and has been eminently identified with every movement for the development and upbuilding of the town. By his energy and judicious business methods he has placed himself in the front rank of the substantial citizens of Pottstown. By his course as chief burgess he has shown signal executive ability, and demonstrated by his vetoes that he has the nerve to stand by his convictions of right, even when opposed by powerful corporations and men of great political influence.

To the foresight and good business judgment of Dr. Eck, Pottstown is indebted for one of her finest and most popular residence sections, known as the East End. He first conceived the idea of buying land and laying it out into town lots, and subsequently interested others with himself in the enterprise. The scheme was pushed forward to complete success, and the East End stands now and will stand as a monument to the practical wisdom and business sagacity of Dr. Eck. It has become one of the most popular residence portions of the city.

Dr. Eck served as a member of the board of managers for the Bringhurst trust fund, has served as president of the Pottstown Medical society, and is a director in the Reading Coal Storage company. He is also identified with several business institutions of Pottstown.

In 1876 the Doctor was married to Annie R. Fox, a daughter of John and Rachel Fox, of Royersford, this county. Mrs. Eck died in 1877, aged twenty years, and since that time Dr. Eck has remained a widower.

HON. WILLIAM D. HEEBNER, an ex-member of the Pennsylvania legislature, and the leading manufacturer of Lansdale. is a son of David S. and Anna (Derstein) Heebner, and was born at Norritonville, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, September 27, 1848. The Heebner family is of German descent, and was one among the number of families that were driven from Germany on account of being Schwenkfelders, in religious belief. David Huebner or Heebner and his wife Maria, came to Pennsylvania in 1734. Their son, George Heebner, born in 1744, married Susanna Heydrick, and their only child, Rev. Baltzer, was born June 12, 1770. Rev. Baltzer Heebner was a farmer in Worcester township, and a minister in the Schwenkfelder Society. He died April 29, 1848, having lived a peaceable and useful life. He married Susanna Schultz, who was a daughter of Christopher Schultz, and passed away March 22, 1848, when in the seventy-third year of her age. Their children were: George, Anthony S., Anna, Maria, Catharine, David S., and Lydia. David S. Heebner (father), was born in Worcester township, June 25, 1810, and followed farming until 1840, when he commenced the manufacture of agricultural machines at Norritonville. He became successful in this line of business, and in 1872 became a partner with his sons Isaac and William D., who were then agricultural machine manufacturers at Lansdale. He continued in this partnership of Heebner & Sons until October, 1887, when William D. purchased the extensive plant that had grown from a small shop. David S. Heebner is a member of the Schwenkfelder Society, and in politics has been an old line Whig and Republican. He was postmaster at Lansdale for four years, having been commissioned

by President Harrison in 1891. For his first wife he married Anna Derstein, who was a daughter of Henry Derstein, and died June 8, 1853, aged —— years. By his first marriage he had eight children: Joseph, James, Mary Ann, Isaac D., Addison, Josiah, Jacob, and Hon. William D. Those living of the children are: Isaac D., of Lansdale; Josiah and Jacob, in Worcester township; and Hon. William D., of Lansdale.

William D. Heebner spent his early days on the farm and attended the public school up to his fourteenth year, when he went in his father's machine shop and learned the trade of machinist in all its branches, which required seven years. Upon the completion of his trade in 1870, he came to Lansdale and became a partner with his brother, Isaac D., under the firm name of Heebner Brothers, and Isaac's small shop was succeeded by a large and well arranged factory, to which the railroad company laid a side track. Two years later the firm became Heebner & Sons, and continued as such until October, 1887, when Mr. Heebner purchased the entire extensive plant, which he has operated actively ever since. He manufactures horse powers, threshing machines, feed cutters, wood sawing machines, steam heaters, and all kinds of farm and agricultural machinery and implements, which he sells all through the United States and Canada, and sends to every quarter of the civilized globe. The value of the plant business is estimated at one hundred thousand dollars. The main buildings are the brick ware-house, three stories in height, with a front of one hundred and fifty-six feet, and two wings eighty and one hundred feet in length; and the factory.

In addition to owning and operating this immense plant, Mr. Heebner has a half interest in the Babcock Shoe Company, Limited, of which he is secretary and treasurer; is a stockholder in the Lansdale Water and Electric Light companies, of which he is president; and owns a large amount of valuable real estate. He also has valuable interests in the South, where he has a winter home in the State of Florida, and owns orange groves and pineapple plantations.

On November 7, 1872, Mr. Heebner married Emma Frantz, a daughter of Jesse Frantz, of Center Square. Mrs. Heebner died August 22, 1881, and on November 29, 1883, Mr. Heebner wedded Lizzie Shearer, a daughter of John Shearer, of Lansdale. By his first marriage he has three children: Clarella, Blanche, and Estelle. To his second union have been born two sons and one daughter: Robert S., J. Donald, and Grace W.

William D. Heebner is a member of the Lansdale Methodist Episcopal church, of which he is a trustee and the treasurer. He is an enthusiastic church worker, and for the last seventeen years has served as leader of the choir. Mr. Heebner is a member of Lansdale Castle No. 244, Knights of the Golden Eagle; and Lamthe Lodge No. 977, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, which he helped to organize at Lansdale. He is a Knight Templar Mason, being a member of Norristown Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons; Norristown Chapter No. 190, Royal Arch Masons; and Hutchinson Commandery No. 32, Knights Templar, and Washington Camp No. 120, P. O. S. of A.

William D. Heebner is a staunch Republican in politics, and has always been an active worker for the success of his party. He was chief burgess of Lansdale for four

terms, and was a member of the Pennsylvania house of representatives in 1885 and in 1889. He was a candidate for the State senate in 1890, but was defeated, and since his party has hopes of carrying the district in the future, his name has been again mentioned in connection with the State senatorship.

NEVILLE D. TYSON, a prominent and leading member of the Montgomery county bar, is a son of Dr. James L. and Caroline (Drinker) Tyson, and was born in the city of Baltimore, Maryland, October 11, 1846. The Tyson family is one of the old and honorable families of Pennsylvania. Of the founding of the Tyson family in America, we quote the following interesting and reliable account:

"The emigrating ancestor of the Tyson family to this country was Renier Tyson, an Englishman of ancient and honorable descent. He met Penn and Barclay in Holland, whither he had fled for the purpose of enjoying his religious faith unmolested. As a convert to the faith of Fox, by the writings of Barclay and the preaching of Penn, he ultimately sought religious freedom in America. On the recommendation of the latter who had there founded a colony, he arrived in Pennsylvania from Bristol, England, in 1683, the year after the landing of Penn, and settled in Germantown, near Philadelphia. During his residence there, he was twice chosen chief burgess of the Village of Germantown. Some years after he removed to the vicinity of Abington, which he helped to found.

"Renier Tyson was a man of great vigor of mind, possessed considerable property, and he filled the most prominent appointment in the meeting at Abington at a time when superior intelligence no less than rigid principle was sought as a qualification in the Society of Friends. He acted upon the most important committees, was successively promoted from the station of overseer to that of elder, and filled with great satisfaction to his colleagues the various responsible duties which the establishment of a religious sect in a new and flourishing colony necessarily imposed. The spiritual and philanthropic labors of this excellent and respected Friend in common with those of his compeers are recorded in an ancient manuscript volume in possession of the Abington Meeting.

"We find among the first ancestors of Renier Tyson, Dr. Edward Tyson, of London, whose works in Latin were published by the Royal Society of England, and whose fame as a nationalist and learned writer are well attested by the highest appreciation of scholars.

"The books of heraldry assign him an escutcheon which is appreciated by some of his lineal descendants in this country and used as a device upon their seals. The descending line of Renier Tyson constitutes the American branch of the Tyson family."

A son of Renier Tyson was Henry Tyson, who was born March 4, 1702, at Germantown, and who was the father of James Tyson, born April 4, 1738 and wedded a Miss Harper. James Tyson was born at Springfield, Montgomery county, and was a farmer by occupation. His son Joseph Tyson, was born in Philadelphia, June 29, 1775, and married Ann Van Trump, by whom he had nine children. He was a Friend or Quaker in religion and a Whig in politics. His son, Dr. James L. Tyson, the father of the subject of this sketch, was

born in Philadelphia, November 19, 1813. He received his education in Philadelphia, and was graduated in medicine from the University of Pennsylvania, after which he practiced for some years in that city. He was one of the originators of the Wills Eye hospital, and served as Professor of materia medica in the Philadelphia college of medicine. During the California gold excitement he had a general hospital in the mountains of that State, and about 1859 came to Penllyn, Montgomery county, where he has resided ever since. Dr. Tyson retired from active practice a few years ago, and ranks to-day as one of the most skillful and successful physicians that eastern Pennsylvania has ever produced. He is a Democrat, and was a warm personal friend of James Buchanan. He was a member of the Society of Friends, which dropped him from membership upon his marriage with a lady who did not belong to and declined to unite with that religious organization. He was an able and fluent medical and political lecturer, and at the present time still contributes to medical and scientific journals, in whose columns in the past he wielded an intelligent and trenchant pen. He wedded Caroline Drinker, a daughter of ——— Drinker, of ——— ——. To their union were born six children of whom five are living: Carroll S., a member of the Philadelphia city bar; Herbert B., a retired naval officer; Neville D. (subject); Eleanor C., wife of Professor Henry Drisler, Dean of the school of arts, of Columbia college, New York, and J. Roberts, who is employed in the bank of North America, at Philadelphia. The child who died was Mary Louise, who passed away at two years of age. Lieutenant, Herbert B., entered the United States navy at the age of fourteen years, at the Annapolis naval academy, and at the outbreak of the late Civil war—he then a midshipman—was ordered to the sloop of war *Jamestown*, then returning with a prize to Philadelphia. He was next ordered to the war-ship *Hartford*, on which he served as acting master under Farragut in the battle of New Orleans. He was then passed over the grades of ensign and master, and commissioned as lieutenant, which rank he held on board the Hartford throughout the war. He and lieutenant (now captain) J. Critendon Watson were the only two line officers who sailed with Farragut from Philadelphia, and served with him on his flag-ship throughout his brilliant and trying campaigns. He went through many naval engagements and battles, receiving only a slight scratch at the battle of New Orleans, and at the close of the war was executive officer of the *Connecticut*. He afterwards took charge of the old *Constitution*, and when ordered to the *Dacotah*, sent in his resignation, but it was not accepted until the *Dacotah* arrived at Valparaiso, Chili. Returning to the United States, he was variously employed for several years and is now engaged in banking and is connected with the custom house in Philadelphia.

Neville D. Tyson was reared in Philadelphia, and after receiving his education under private tutors and in select schools, entered the naval service in the spring of 1863, as captain's clerk, on the steam frigate, *Minnesota*, commanded by Captain N. B. Harrison, then the flag-ship of Rear Admiral S. P. Lee, in command of the North Atlantic blockading squadron. He was soon detailed as a member of Admiral Lee's staff, and served thereon for several months, and in the autumn of 1864, was ordered to the sloop of war *Canandaigua*, in the South Atlantic blockading squadron.

He took part in all the battles in which the two vessels named were engaged whilst he served on board of them, and in various expeditions in boats. He served until May 1865, when the term of his second appointment expired, after which he did not again enter the service of the government. Returning home he was variously engaged for two years, and then in 1867, came to Norristown where he became a law student in the office of his brother, Carroll S. Tyson. After completing the required course of reading he was admitted to the Montgomery county bar, August 17, 1869. After admission he entered upon the practice and has remained ever since at Norristown. He is a leading attorney; has a large bank and corporation practice, and handles cases with ability in the different departments of civil and criminal law. He is a Democrat in politics but no politician, although he allowed his name to be used in early life in connection with the office of district attorney, and some years ago by solicitation of friends, was placed in nomination for president judge on the Democratic ticket, which was then greatly in the minority in the district.

Mr. Tyson has always taken an active part in the local arrangements about the court-house in use for the facilitation of the public business. He suggested and afterwards by solicitation of the judge and the other members of the bar, designed the present arrangement of the court-room. As chairman of the committee to arrange and index the court records of Montgomery county, he was instrumental in securing the present admirable system which is used throughout the court-house. Mr. Tyson is a member of the Montgomery county law association, and the Philadelphia Lawyer's club.

REV. WILLIAM S. ANDERS, pastor of the Worcester Schwenkfelter church, is a son of Abraham and Rebecca (Schultz) Anders, and was born in Worcester township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, August 30, 1840. Abraham Anders was of German ancestry, and a farmer by occupation; he served as a school director, was a director of the Montgomery county bank; and held other important offices in several industrial companies. He was active in business affairs, and never aspired to any public office, although he was frequently offered political positions, which he always declined. He was a Republican in politics, and in religious belief was a Schwenkfelter, having been a member of that church for over fifty years prior to his death. Abraham Anders was a useful man and a good citizen, and died December 28, 1887, at the advanced age of eighty-one years. He married Rebecca Schultz, who was a daughter of George Schultz, and passed away October 29th, 1851, aged seventy years. To their union were born seven children, five sons and two daughters: Rev. William S., (subject); Joseph S., Susan, wife of Josiah D. Heebner, of this county; Charles S., Abraham S., now deceased; Mary S., who wedded Jeremiah K. Anders; and Amos S.

Rev. William S. Anders received his education in the common schools, and two years at the Mount Kirk seminary, and engaged in teaching, which he followed for one year in Towamencin, and three years in Worcester and four years in Norriton township. At the end of this time he removed to his farm in Worcester township and was steadily employed in farming up to 1871. On June 3rd of that year he was called as a probationer to the ministry of the Schwenkfelter church, and in October, 1873, was installed as one of the pastors of

Worcester, Towamencin and Lower Salford churches, which he has served ably and zealously ever since. His church has a membership of three hundred souls and is in a flourishing condition.

On February 1, 1868, Rev. Anders was united in marriage with Susan H. Krause, who is a daughter of Aaron and Lydia (Heebner) Krause, of Worcester township.

In political opinion, Rev. William S. Anders is a Republican. He served for several years as a school director of his township, and since 1889 has been a director of Ursinus college. He is also a director of the Montgomery County National bank and of several industrial companies. From 1871 to 1893 he farmed extensively, but since the latter year has given his time entirely to his pastoral labors, and although serving in an official capacity in several business enterprises, yet allows nothing in connection with them to interfere with his church work. Rev. William S. Anders is a devoted worker in his Divine Master's vineyard. He is an able and fluent speaker, and has the reputation of being a sound theologian.

OTHNIEL S. SPANG, a well-known painter of Norristown, is a native of the Oley valley, Berks county, Pennsylvania, where he was born April 14, 1821. His parents were Jacob and Mary (Sands) Spang, both natives of Philadelphia. Henry Spang (paternal grandfather) was also a resident of that city, and owned large iron furnaces in the Oley valley of Berks county, where he was engaged in the manufacture of iron for many years. One of his brothers served as a soldier in the Revolutionary war. Henry Spang was a member of the Reformed church, and married Hannah Hill. One of their sons was Jacob Spang (father), who was born in Philadelphia in 1787. He was reared and educated in his native city, and after attaining manhood became superintendent and general manager of his father's iron works in Berks county. In 1831 he removed to Norristown, Montgomery county, where he embarked in the hotel business, being proprietor of the Farmer's hotel until 1834. In the latter year he entered politics and was elected sheriff of this county, which position he acceptably filled for three years. He was a man of public spirit and continued active in local politics until his death at Norristown in 1864, when in the seventy-seventh year of his age. In the closing year of the last century he married Mary Sands, a daughter of Othniel Sands, of Amity township, Berks county, and by that marriage had a family of ten children: Catharine, Hannah, Sarah, Othniel S., the subject of this sketch; Amos, James, Mary, Emma, Frederick, William, and one who died in infancy. Mrs. Mary Spang died at Norristown in 1854, aged sixty-one years.

Othniel S. Spang came to Norristown with his parents when less than ten years of age, and was principally reared in this borough. His education was obtained in private schools, under the instruction of George Lewis and others. When seventeen he began learning the trade of stone cutter, at which he worked until attaining his majority in 1842. In the latter year he went into the foundry business with his brother-in-law, Thomas M. Saurman, at Norristown. From his earliest years, young Spang had evinced an unusual fondness for drawing and painting, and his work in stone and iron was not congenial to his tastes. He began the regular study of art without the assistance of teachers, and his genius was such that he soon succeeded in attaining a remarkable

degree of proficiency in that line. Encouraged by his success, and enthusiastic on the subject of art, he abandoned all other work in 1854, opened a studio at Norristown, and devoted himself to the profession. The only instruction he ever received was a course of instruction under Professor Mason, of the Franklin institute, Philadelphia, and some technical instruction from his friend Paul Weber, the celebrated painter. In 1855 he began teaching his art in the public schools of Norristown, and with the exception of the war period, has taught drawing and painting in these schools nearly ever since, having devoted more than thirty-three years to that duty, during all of which time he has not missed a dozen lessons. He also was an instructor for a number of years in Oakland Female institute and Treemount seminary (for boys), both prosperous institutions of learning before the war of the Rebellion. Mr. Spang has also painted a number of pictures which have won praise from connoisseurs and lovers of art, and has made his name familiar in the art circles.

When the opening thunders of the Civil war electrified the North, Mr. Spang laid down his palette and brush, and enlisting in Company E, 15th Pennsylvania cavalry, marched forth to the defense of his country. He participated in the hard fought battles of Antietam and Chickamauga, and took part in a number of minor engagements and skirmishes. In 1862 he was attacked with typhoid fever and sent to the hospital. After recovering he again joined his regiment at Nashville, Tennessee, and marched from there to Murfreesboro, and later followed General Bragg through Tennessee to Chattanooga, where he was engaged with his regiment in the memorable battle of November 23–25, 1863. At the end of his three years' service, Mr. Spang returned to Norristown and resumed his profession, to which he has ever since devoted his attention.

On March 28th, 1871, Mr. Spang was united in marriage to Sarah B. Sutton, a daughter of William Sutton, of the city of Philadelphia. She died December 18th, 1891, at the age of sixty-six years, without issue. In his political affiliations, the subject of this sketch is a Republican, and has always taken an interest in local politics. He is a member of Cavalry Post No. 35, Grand Army of the Republic, of Philadelphia.

DR. CHARLES MOORE, a retired dental surgeon of Pottstown, was born in the city of Philadelphia, September 26, 1817. He is a son of Asher and Mary (Hill) Moore, both natives of Trenton, New Jersey, who removed to Philadelphia while young. Asher Moore died from the effects of an accident, April 28, 1822, at the age of thirty-one years, leaving a wife and four children—William, James, Charles and Mary Ann—of whom Dr. Charles Moore is the only survivor. In 1838 the widow married Joel Finch, who died in 1846. She departed this life April 19, 1887, in her ninety-fourth year. Her parents both died of yellow fever in 1793, while she was an infant.

At the age of fourteen Charles Moore was apprenticed to Henry Schively, of Philadelphia, to learn the art of making surgical instruments. He served with him seven years and afterward worked at the business four years. He then studied dental surgery with Dr. J. DeHaven White, one of the most eminent practitioners of his day, who is still living in Philadelphia. As there were then no dental college in Pennsylvania, Dr. Moore entered the Jefferson Medical college

of Philadelphia, from which he was graduated in 1844. He then practiced dental surgery in his native city until 1846, when he removed to Pottstown and established an office on High street. In September of that year he purchased from W. H. Smith his present property on Hanover street, where he has ever since resided. He remained in active practice until 1894, a period of more than half a century, and during that time extracted fifty thousand teeth without a single accident.

On November 30, 1838, Dr. Moore was married in Philadelphia to Mary Berrill, a daughter of Major Henry Berrill, and a descendant of an old Montgomery county family. Mrs. Moore died August 3, 1842, aged twenty-six. She left two sons, Henry B., who for many years has been engaged in business in the city of Philadelphia, and Charles Clifford, who died soon after his mother. On January 28, 1845, Dr. Moore was again married, wedding Mary F. Evans, a daughter of Mark and Susanna Evans, of East Coventry, Chester county. She had received a liberal education, and was one of the first two teachers of the Pottstown schools after the adoption of the "free" or public school system in this borough in 1838. To the Doctor and Mary Evans Moore was born a family of three children: Wallace Clifton, Rebecca, who married Francis H. Saylor; and Charles E., all now residents of Pottstown. They also have five grandchildren living. On January 28, 1895, the Doctor and Mrs. Moore celebrated their golden wedding, on which occasion a large concourse of friends were assembled from Pottstown, Philadelphia, Norristown, West Chester, and other points, to offer congratulations and participate in the festivities.

Dr. Moore has been a most industrious and useful citizen. In addition to his busy practice, he has taken an active part in social and public affairs. He was a member of the borough council for two terms, during which he was always active for the public welfare and in behalf of the best interests of the town. He served six years as school director and was secretary of the school board for five years. At the election in 1888 his Republican friends in Montgomery county elected him a member of the State assembly, where he served on a number of leading committees and assisted in formulating some important legislation. He was a useful and popular member, and commanded the respect of even his political opponents.

The subject of this sketch has also been prominent in secret society circles for many years. He became an Odd Fellow in 1843, and a Free Mason in 1852. On January 5, 1847, he aided in instituting Manatawny Lodge No. 214, Independent Order of Odd Fellows of Pottstown, and is now the only surviving charter member. He passed all the chairs, becoming secretary in 1850, and held that position for forty-three years without missing a meeting night, but resigned in 1893. He served as representative to the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania for nearly half a century, and to the Grand Lodge of the United States in 1856 and 1857. He was a charter member of Excelsior Encampment No. 85, and served as scribe from 1850 until his resignation a few months ago. Dr. Moore has kept a meteorological register or weather record since 1850, reporting to the signal office at Washington, and the State signal service office in Philadelphia. He recalls many interesting incidents of the olden times, and distinctively remembers seeing General Lafayette as he rode through the streets of Philadelphia in 1824. In 1833 he saw the

distinguished Indian war chief Black Hawk, as he passed along Chestnut street, in that city, seated in a carriage by the side of "Old Hickory" Jackson, then president of the United States.

ALBERT D. SIMPSON, the present efficient sheriff of Montgomery county, is a son of Edward and Catharine (Vanderslice) Simpson, and was born in East Vincent township, Chester county, Pennsylvania, March 2, 1829. His paternal grandfather, Captain Edward Simpson, was a native of Wales, and settled in Philadelphia. He was a sea captain and was drowned in the shipwreck of his vessel when on a voyage to a distant port. His son, Edward Simpson, was born, reared and educated in Philadelphia. He was a tobacconist, general merchant and farmer during the early part of his life, but in later years retired from active business and lived rather a retired life at Phœnixville, Chester county, where he died May 24th, 1870, when in the seventy-sixth year of his age. He was a Democrat in politics, and served for several years as a school director in Chester county. He was a member for many years of the Lutheran church, but finally withdrew from that body and united with the Reformed church, in which he worshipped until his death. Mr. Simpson married Catharine Vanderslice, who is a daughter of John and Deborah Vanderslice, and whose family has been resident of Chester county for over one hundred years. To Mr. and Mrs. Simpson were born five children: Genevieve C., who died in her sixth year; William E., deceased at forty-five years of age; Francis H., who died in his fifty-eighth year; Emma C., wife of Harry Miller, of Cartersville, Georgia; and Albert D., whose name appears at the head of this sketch.

Albert D. Simpson grew to manhood in his native township, where he attended the common schools. He also attended a select school at New London Crossroads, in Chester county, and then learned the trade of carpenter, which he followed from 1848 to 1853. In the latter year he engaged in farming, which he quit eleven years later, to remove to New Bloomfield, Perry county, where he conducted a steam tannery for two years. At the end of that time, in 1866, Mr. Simpson went to Shiloh, Ohio, and purchased a steam flouring and saw mill, which he operated up to 1871. In that year he purchased a farm in Limerick township and resided there until 1888, when he purchased his present property at Trappe, of which place he has been a resident ever since. Mr. Simpson has always been a staunch and active Republican, and has held various local offices. In 1892 he was elected sheriff of Montgomery county for a term of three years, and has been serving efficiently as such from January 1, 1893. He is a member and an elder of St. Luke's Reformed church, Trappe, and at the present time is a delegate to the Philadelphia classis, the Eastern synod, and the General synod of the Reformed church of the United States. He is also a member of the Masonic fraternity, holding membership in Warren Lodge No. 310, Free and Accepted Masons, of Trappe, Norristown Chapter No. 190, and Hutchinson Commandery No. 32.

On December 28, 1852, Mr. Simpson was united in marriage with Lavina R. Bucher, and to their union were born eight children: Genevieve C., wife of George C. W. Shenkle, of Millersville, this State; Sallie K., married Michael R. Shenkle, of Phœnixville, Chester county; Edward D., who wedded

Emma C. Gamble; Francis H., deceased; Harry M., married Irene Booz; Howard A.; Lettie M., of Norristown; and Ada L., deceased. Mrs. Simpson was a daughter of Daniel Bucher, of East Vincent township, Chester county, and a first cousin to General Hartranft. She died February 23, 1892, aged sixty-two years, and her remains were interred in Morris cemetery, Phœnixville.

ALOYSIUS J. SCHISSLER, M. A., President and founder of the Schissler Colleges of Business and Shorthand, of both Manayunk and Norristown, Penna., is a native of Philadelphia county, Pa., where he was born the 23rd day of November, 1864, and is the second youngest son of John M. and Mary (Schall) Schissler. His father, John M. Schissler, was a native of Baden-Baden, Germany, who emigrated to the United States while yet a young man and in 1844 came to Philadelphia where he engaged for a short time in the grocery business and then embarked in the baking business. In politics he was a Democrat, and in religion, a member of the Evangelical Lutheran church. He died at Manayunk, Pa., March 2, 1887, in the 70th year of age, having been born February 2, 1818. He married Mary Schall, a daughter of Anthony S. and Margaretta (Nieumer) Schall, of Manayunk, Phila., and by that union had a family of eight children, Annie Josephine, married Nicholas Barthelemy, and now resides in California; Christina, Clement B. married Sarah Corman, of Montgomery county, Penna., Edward F., M. Stanislaus, Margaretta, Rudolph and Aloysius J., the subject of this sketch.

A. J. Schissler was reared in his native county, Philadelphia, and was educated principally in the public schools of Manayunk. Later he entered a business college in the city of Philadelphia, where he had a full course of instruction in every department and from which he was duly graduated in 1887. He then became book-keeper for McClain & Vautier, of that city, but shortly afterwards resigned to accept the position of book-keeper, salesman and general manager of the firm of J. Ripka & Co., cotton and woolen manufacturers, at Manayunk. With the latter firm he remained for a period of over three years when they retired from business, and Mr. Schissler became the owner of the factory. In 1887 he had established the Schissler College of Business and Shorthand at Manayunk, of which he since has disposed and which was under his personal supervision until June 29, 1894. On Sept. 14, 1891, he founded a like institution at Norristown, under the name of the Schissler College of Business and Shorthand, which he has since given close personal attention.

The first session opened with only 10 students, which increased to 25 at the end of the year; in 1892 the number had grown to 76, and in 1894 the enrollment reached 510. This growth speaks eloquently of the facilities for first-class business training which are offered by this college. The Schissler College of Norristown, is one of the best equipped institutions of its kind in the State of Pennsylvania. Its corps of teachers has been continually increased to meet the demands of its growing patronage, and every facility for practical business operations provided in liberal abundance. The specialties of this business school are book-keeping, shorthand and type-writing, and it has two city offices which call the attention of hundreds of young men and women to this institution where they can prepare

A. J. Schissler, M. A.

Willoughby H. Reed

themselves for the duties of modern business.

The Schissler College of Norristown, has just become an incorporated institution, and has among its directors some of the most prominent bankers, professional and business men of the State. Its sole aim is to become an institution of national repute.

On Sept. 18, 1890, Mr. Schissler was united in marriage to Louisa Cecila Wunsch, a daughter of Anselma and Margaretta Wunsch, of Manayunk, Philadelphia. To Mr. and Mrs. Schissler has been born one child, a daughter named Marie Frances. Politically Mr. Schissler is a liberal Republican, supporting the general policy of that party, but inclined to independence in local politics. He has ability and talent for general management, has made his name known in various parts of the United States, and built up a business that entitles him to rank with the enterprising and progressive citizens of Montgomery county.

JOHN PHILIP REED, (better known as Philip Reed) the great, great-grandfather of Dr. W. H. Reed, emigrated from Manheim, Palatinate, on the Rhine, Germany. He landed with his family in Philadelphia, in the ship "*Friendship*," from Rotterdam, October 17, 1727. He located in *Salford township, Philadelphia county, there secured land and followed farming. Previous to 1734 he paid quit rent in Salford township for more than one hundred acres; in 1734 he was assessed for fifty acres, but later on he became an extensive land owner near the present Hoppenville.

Philip Reed was a worshipper in the New Goshenhoppen Reformed church, Upper Hanover township, and he was one of the original enrolled members of said congregation.

His wife's family fled from Switzerland on account of persecution, and he for the same cause from Germany.

Philip Reed was born January 26, 1698, and died September 8, 1783, in his eighty-sixth year. His remains were buried beside those of his wife in the New Goshenhoppen Reformed church burial ground. His wife's name was Feronica, and they had three sons and five daughters: Jacob, Michael, Andrew, Catharine, Frances, Margretha, Elizabeth, and Eve.

Jacob Reed, the eldest in the line of descent, was born in Salford township, (afterward Marlborough), June 28, 1730. He early received a liberal education and was reared a farmer. About 1755 he married Magdalene Leidy, to whom nine children were born: Philip, Jacob, John, Andrew, Margaret, Magdalene, Catharine, Elizabeth, and Eve. John was killed by lightning in his twenty-third year. The others all lived to an advanced age.

Jacob Reed early located with his family in Hatfield township, and later on purchased a farm near the present Hatfield station, on the North Pennsylvania railroad, the title for which, dated the 23rd day of February, 1770, he received from Thomas and Richard Penn, who were proprietors and governors-in-chief in and over the Province of Pennsylvania.

In 1793 Jacob Reed sold his farm in Hatfield and purchased one in New Britain township, Bucks county, on the county line road dividing Montgomery and Bucks

*Sometime subsequent to 1741, Marlborough was created from Salford township, and Philip Reed's farm fell in the detached portion or the township of Marlborough. This farm remained in the Reed family for over one and a quarter centuries.

counties. On this farm he resided, and here his wife died August 5, 1804, aged sixty-five years, six months and twelve days. The remaining days of his life were spent with his son Andrew on his farm, where he died November 2, 1820, aged ninety years, four months and four days. His remains lie buried in the Leidy burying ground, Franconia township, beside his wife and other members of the family.

Jacob Reed was a man of much prominence in his day. He was active and influential as a citizen, filling several positions of public trust in the vicinity. In the church he also took a deep interest, worshipping at the Indian Field Reformed church, not far distint, in which he served as an elder for a number of years. He was also prominent and active as a defender of his country during the Revolutionary war.

In 1777, after the reorganization of the militia by the State, Jacob Reed was elected lieutenant colonel of the first battalion of Philadelphia county militia, recruited from the townships of Upper and Lower Salford, Towamencin, Hatfield, Perkiomen and Skippack. During Washington's campaign of active operations in this vicinity of the State in 1777 and 1778, Col. Reed rendered the General invaluable service by his knowledge of this territory and people. He participated in the battles of Trenton, Germantown and Brandywine.

Colonel Jacob Reed escaped unhurt on the field of battle, but on one occasion, when at home visiting his family, he was waylaid by Tories, who first shot him through the leg, then tied him to a tree, tarred and feathered him and commenced digging his grave in which they proposed burying him. Before completing this last act they were discovered and fled, when he was released from his perilous situation. The parties engaged in this transaction escaped from the country and their property was subsequently confiscated. On another occasion, while passing along the highway, he was shot at by a Hessian, who lay concealed in a fence corner, the bullet grazing his head. Again, on another occasion while the British were laying in Philadelphia, they engaged in a marauding expedition to his house while he was on a furlough, and took him prisoner. They were about firing the gun already pointed at him, when the British officer's wife interfered and saved his life. They, however, took his best horse and despoiled him of much other valuable property, for which the State allowed him in 1783 forty-five pounds. At the battle of Germantown he had his horse shot and killed from under him.

Andrew Reed, the subject's grandfather, being the youngest of Colonel Jacob Reed's children, remained with him and aided in the cultivation of his farm. About 1807 he married Mary Hartman, to whom five children were born, named Jacob, Michael, Julian, Abigail, and Sarah, all natives of New Britain township. Jacob, Julian and Abigail are deceased; the others still survive.

The year following the death of his father Andrew Reed removed to his farm in Hilltown township, Bucks county, which adjoined New Britain, which he cultivated until his children grew to mature years and left him. About the year 1846 he sold his farm and purchased a home near the Hilltown church, where, on June 1, 1856, his daughter Abigail died, in the forty-sixth year of her age, and on June 3, 1861, his wife died, aged seventy-four years. The remaining days were spent with his youngest daughter, Sarah. The last eight years were spent in total blindness. His death occurred

June 10, 1869, aged eighty-eight years and seventeen days. During his life he was strictly honest in all his dealings, devoted to his family and beloved by his neighbors. Both Mr. Reed and his wife were consistent Christians and worshipped at the church of the Evangelical Association at Hilltown, where their remains lie buried beside those of their daughter Abigail.

Michael Hartman Reed was born October 24, 1809. He early attended Mennonite day school, and when his parents removed to Hilltown, attended pay school there until he was sixteen years of age. Then he was indentured with Henry Shellenberger, of Line Lexington, to learn the trade of hatting. After completing his apprenticeship, he worked as journeyman for Shellenberger; then accepted a position in Schaffer's hat factory, Germantown, Pa. In 1832 he opened a hat and fur store and manufactured hats in Skippackville, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania. While here he was appointed postmaster under President Jackson. He remained in business at that place for two years, when he disposed of his place and stock to George Ruth, and removed to Philadelphia and opened a hat and fur store on Fourth street, below Vine. After several years of successful business at this stand, he disposed of the same, afterwards forming a partnership with Jesse Shellenberger, they together opened a hat and fur store on Second street, below Noble. On account of failing health, he retired from business in 1847, and removed to Bucks county, when, on February 15, 1852, he married Mary A. Rockafellow, to whom three children were born: Franklin, Willoughby H. and Mary E.

In 1855 he removed with his family to Norristown. Two years later he moved to Jeffersonville, at which place he still resides. Franklin P. is engaged in the hardware business at National City, Southern California, where he married and is now living. Mary E. resides at the home of her parents and is engaged in teaching.

Willoughby H. Reed, M. D., Ph. G., a well read physician and skillful druggist of Norristown, was born at Norristown, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, January 20, 1856. Willoughby Reed was reared principally at Jeffersonville, and received his education in the public schools of Norriton township. In his seventeenth year he discontinued going to school and accepted a position in the village grocery store. Subsequently he entered the *True Witness* office, a temperance paper, owned and edited by Moses Auge, to learn the science and art of printing. He followed the trade of a printer for eighteen months, then he became a clerk in the drug store of I. M. Buckwalter, of Phœnixville, where he remained four years. He matriculated in the fall of 1877 in the Philadelphia college of pharmacy, of Philadelphia, and was graduated from that institution in the class of 1879. The ensuing year he spent as a clerk in a Philadelphia drug store and in reading medicine, and then entered Jefferson Medical college in the fall of 1880, from which time-honored institution he was graduated in the spring of 1882. After graduation he practiced for some time at Cape May Point, at which place he remained two seasons, having a good practice and conducting a large drug store, then located and practiced medicine at Jeffersonville. At the end of that time, in 1884, he removed to Norristown, where he is actively engaged in the drug business at the present time.

A short period previous to the outbreak of the Pittsburg riots in 1877, Dr. Reed enlisted as a private in Company D., 10th

regiment, Pennsylvania militia, of Phœnixville. When the call was made by the State for troops, he was one of the boys to first report with muskets for duty. The troop were in the field for eighteen days and experienced some rough and trying times while at Pittsburg.

On November 5, 1884, Dr. Reed was united in marriage with Annie R. Jarrett, daughter of Samuel F. Jarrett, of Jeffersonville.

Dr. Reed, besides filling a number of positions of honor and trust, is a member and recently president of the Pennsylvania Pharmaceutical association; he is a member of the Alumni Association of the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy, and also of the Philadelphia Botanical club, the Montgomery County Historical society, and the Knights of Friendship. Dr. Reed is a Republican politically, and has served for several terms as a school director. He is at the present time treasurer of the board. He is a congregational member and trustee of the Jeffersonville Presbyterian church. He is a member of the American Pharmaceutical association, and is a frequent and valuable contributor to general, medical and pharmaceutical literature. He is at present at work on a history and genealogy of the "Reed" family.

HOWARD K. REGAR, junior member of the firm of Rambo & Regar, manufacturers of hosiery, Norristown, this county, is a son of George K. and Mary J. (Kafroth) Regar, and was born in the city of Philadelphia, December 16, 1861. The Regars are of German extraction, and for several generations have resided in Lancaster county, this State. After attaining manhood, Mr. Regar's father was engaged in the mercantile business and various industrial pursuits in different parts of Pennsylvania, but about 1852 he removed to the city of Philadelphia and embarked in the wholesale notion trade. He continued the mercantile business in Philadelphia for a dozen years, and died in that city June 20th, 1865, in the thirty-ninth year of his age. His remains rest in the cemetery at Adamstown, Lancaster county. He was a Republican in politics and in religion a member of the Evangelical church. He married Mary J. Kafroth, of Earlville, Lancaster county, and had a family of five children, all of whom are still living: Horace, now a practicing physician of the city of Philadelphia; George; Ida, wife of John D. Glass, of Philadelphia; Howard K., the subject of this sketch; and Newton. Mrs. Regar resides in Philadelphia, being now in her sixtieth year.

Howard K. Regar was reared in his native city of Philadelphia, and received an English education in the public schools of the metropolis. After leaving school he spent one year as law clerk, and then established himself as clerk in the wholesale notion business in Philadelphia. Afterward he became connected with the jewelry manufacturing business as a clerk and salesman, in which position he remained for a period of one and a half years. In 1886 he became a member of the firm of Rambo & Regar, hosiery manufacturers of Norristown, Montgomery county, and removed to this borough in 1889, assuming control of the financial management of the business. His partner is Mr. Joseph S. Rambo, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this volume. Their factory, known as the Globe Knitting mills, is a large and commodious structure, located at the corner of Moore and Walnut streets, and is fully equipped with all

W. L. Pegor

modern machinery for the manufacture of every description of seamless hosiery. In addition to this business, Mr. Regar is also treasurer of the Norristown Shoe Manufacturing company, treasurer of the Excelsior Automatic Knitting Machine company, a director of the Penn Tack company, and a stockholder in several other business enterprises.

On the 12th of April, 1888, Mr. Regar was united in marriage with Eugenia Severn, a daughter of Mrs. Anna Severn, of the city of Philadelphia. Their union has been blessed by the birth of one child, a son, Howard Severn, now in his sixth year.

Politically Mr. Regar is an uncompromising Republican and protectionist, though he has never taken any active part in political matters, a strict devotion to business being more congenial to his tastes. In religion he is an Episcopalian, being connected with St. John's Episcopal church of Norristown, and is also a director of the Young Men's Christian association. He is a man of musical talent, and is now serving as chorister of the Episcopal Sunday-school, and president of the Norristown Choral society. Mr. Regar is also a member of the Order of Sparta. He and his wife are very popular socially, and as a business man his record is one of honorable success.

GILBERT RODMAN FOX, ESQ., a gifted lawyer of the Norristown bar, is a son of Gilbert R. and Catharine (Cruger) Fox, and was born at Oscawana, on the Hudson, Westchester county, New York, July 26, 1861. The Fox family is of English ancestry and was founded in the new world by General Edward Fox, who came to Philadelphia during the latter part of the eighteenth century and engaged in the mercantile business, in which he was very successful for many years. He served as auditor general of Pennsylvania under Joseph Reed, when the latter was president of that State. He was the friend of Robert Morris, and lost heavily by endorsing for him. Gen. Fox was born at Dublin, Ireland, but of English parents, and married Elizabeth Sergeant, sister of Jonathan Dickinson Sergeant, and aunt to Thomas Sergeant, a judge of the supreme court of Pennsylvania. His son, Judge John Fox, was born at Philadelphia April 26, 1787, was graduated from the University of Pennsylvania and read law under Alexander J. Dallis, with George M. Dallis, the son of the latter, and afterwards vice-president of the United States. Soon after admission to the bar Mr. Fox was recommended by his physician to settle in the country, and was successively a resident of Bristol, Newtown and Doylestown, the three successive seats of justice for Bucks county during the first half of the present century. He was a Democrat, and served as deputy attorney general of Bucks county for several years. In 1830 he was appointed president judge of the Seventh Judicial district, then composed of the counties of Bucks and Montgomery, and would have held that position for life, had he not, with all other judges, been legislated out of office by the adoption of the constitution of 1838, which made the judical office elective. He left his law cases when prosecuting attorney to serve on General Worrall's staff in the War of 1812. He served with the rank of major and afterwards was appointed major general of the Seventh division of the Pennsylvania militia, which command he held until he went on the bench. Judge Fox died at Doylestown, Bucks county, April 15, 1849.

He was an intimate friend of John C. Calhoun, and an admirer of Daniel Webster, with whom he never agreed politically except on the interpretation of the United States constitution. He was the intimate friend and private adviser of Samuel D. Ingham, when the latter was secretary of the treasury under President Jackson in the days when the "Kitchen Cabinet" was a prominent factor in politics at Washington city. An unselfish man of good judgment and tender heart, yet Judge Fox had great courage, both physical and moral, and never knew fear or timidity. His opinion on the negro suffrage question in a case he argued was published by direction of the Pennsylvania legislature and gave him reputation not only throughout the United States, but also in the leading countries of Europe. On June 6, 1816, he married Margery Rodman, and left five children, three sons and two daughters. Mrs. Fox was a daughter of Gilbert Rodman, a retired Philadelphia merchant and a member of the old Colonial Rodman family.

One of these sons, Gilbert R. Fox, (father), was born at Doylestown, Bucks county, March 27, 1817. He was graduated from Princeton college in 1835, and two years later received his degree of A. M. from that old historic institution of learning. He read law, was admitted to the bar of Bucks county in September, 1838, and removed the same year to Norristown, where he was immediately admitted to the bar November 19, 1838.

The next year he was appointed deputy attorney general of Montgomery county and held that office up to 1845. He was then engaged in the practice of his profession until January, 1860, when he was appointed clerk of the district court of the United States for the eastern district of Pennsylvania, which position he resigned fifteen years later, on April 19, 1875. He died at Norristown, December 4, 1892, when in the seventy-sixth year of his age. Mr. Fox ranked as one of the best equity lawyers of the State, and in politics supported the Democratic party, but was no politician. He was a Presbyterian and served for many years as an elder of his church, in which he was a leading and influential member. He wedded Catharine Cruger, a daughter of Nicholas Cruger, of New York, who was born December 13, 1829, and died January 8, 1894. To their union were born five children: Kate Margery, Francis M., Martha R., Gilbert Rodman, Governeur C. Of these children three are living, Gilbert Rodman, Francis M., and Martha R., wife of Albert R. Genet, an attorney-at-law, of New York City.

Gilbert Rodman Fox was brought up in Norristown, receiving his academical education in the Classical institute of Philadelphia, and the Hill school of Pottstown. He entered Princeton college in 1880, being admitted to the Sophomore class, and was a member of the class of 1884, but left college in 1883, at the end of the Junior year, to commence the study of law. He was admitted to the Montgomery county bar May 23, 1885, and on January 30, 1888, was admitted to practice before the supreme court of Pennsylvania. He is also a member of the bar of Philadelphia county, and was admitted to the supreme court of the United States on March 11, 1895, upon motion of the Hon. George F. Edmunds, of Vermont. Since his admission to the bar, Mr. Fox has practiced continuously in Montgomery and adjoining counties and before the supreme court of the State. He is a Democrat in politics, like his father and grandfather before him,

and while not neglectful of any political duty, yet is devoted to the practice of his profession in which he has been successful.

On May 11, 1886, Mr. Fox was united in marriage with Rebekah Coleman, daughter of George F. Coleman, senior, member of the well known firm of Coleman & Brother, commission merchants, of Philadelphia, since retired from the firm. They have had five children: Gilbert Rodman, now deceased; George Coleman, Josephine, Mildred, and John Wister.

HON. HENRY K. BOYER, ex-speaker of the house of representatives of Pennsylvania, lawyer, scholar and politician, is a son of Ephraim D. and Rebecca (Kline) Boyer, and was born at Evansburg, in Lower Providence township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, February 19, 1850. The Boyer and Kline families are two old German families which have been resident in Montgomery county for over one hundred and fifty years.

Henry K. Boyer received his elementary education in the public schools of his native township and then took a classical course at Freeland seminary, now Ursinus college, of Collegeville. At sixteen years of age he commenced life for himself as a teacher. He taught a district school in his own neighborhood for two years, and then went to Philadelphia, where he became teacher of the English branches in a classical academy, in which every leading nationality was represented by the students in attendance. One year later he was elected a teacher in a classified school in the twenty-third ward, which was an old Quaker settlement, and while teaching there he received and accepted the offer of the principalship of the Kaign's Point Grammar school in Camden, New Jersey. In this new and advanced field of educational labor he did such thorough, practical and satisfactory work as to make him popular with his patrons and win the reputation of an able and progressive educator. He served as principal of this school for three years, although offered in the meantime the principalship of a Philadelphia Grammar school at an increased salary. In 1871 he became a law student in the office of ex-Attorney General Benjamin Harris Brewster, of Philadelphia, and in 1872 resigned the principalship of the Kaign's Point Grammar school in order to devote his entire time to his legal studies. Two years later on, 1874, at the early age of twenty-four years, he was admitted to the bar of Philadelphia, and has engaged in the practice of his profession ever since in the civil courts of the State. His present law offices are at 608 Chestnut street, Philadelphia, and he has met with flattering success in his profession.

With a reputation for scholarship and legal ability, it was but natural that his party called upon him for leadership, and his distinguished political career commenced in 1882, when the Republicans elected him as a member of the Pennsylvania house of representatives from Philadelphia. He was re-elected in 1884, 1886, and 1888, and again in 1892. In 1887, at the early age of thirty-seven years, he was elected speaker of the house, and re-elected in 1889, receiving each time the unanimous support of his party, and in 1889 was complimented by receiving the unanimous vote of the house. Excepting Mr. Boyer, but three or four persons of any age in the history of the State, have enjoyed the distinction of having served two consecutive terms as speaker of the

house. During the time he served as a member of the house he was active in committee work and prominent and able in debate, and helped to add some valuable laws to the statute book of the State. He advocated the Bullitt bill, the Medical Examiners' bill, the Board of Health bill, and the bill regulating fraternal societies, and assisted in framing the revenue act of 1885. While speaker he won an enviable reputation for fair and just rulings in a time when partisanship was rife and party feeling ran high.

His services as speaker gave Mr. Boyer such a degree of popularity that his party in 1889 unanimously nominated him for State treasurer, the only elective office that year on the State ticket, and he was elected by the handsome majority of sixty thousand nine hundred and twenty-six votes. He served as State treasurer from May, 1890, to May, 1892. While serving as treasurer, in 1891, the famous Taggart (Granger) State revenue bill was passed by the house and sent to the State senate for concurrence, and to oppose it Mr. Boyer had a bill (since known as the Boyer revenue act) passed in the house and also sent to the senate for concurrence. A sharp contest there ensued over the bills, and on a test vote on a minor matter connected with these bills, the Taggart following fell into the minority by one vote. The influence of this vote was such that the final passage of the Boyer revenue act was secured by a good majority, and became the present revenue law of the State. After completing his term as State treasurer, he was nominated by the Republicans of the Seventh District of Philadelphia and elected as a member of the legislature of 1893 by a majority of two thousand six hundred and seventy-seven votes, serving during that session as chairman of the committee on ways and means. He declined a renomination in 1894, and announced his retirement from politics.

Henry K. Boyer has the reputation of a man of fine literary attainments and as being an excellent mathematician. In 1887 he delivered the address at the commencement of Ursinus college, and his effort was so able and showed such deep and accurate scholarship, that the faculty of that institution of learning conferred upon him the degree of A. M. Subsequently he became a member of the board of directors of Ursinus college and one of the executive committee. Able as a lawyer, popular as a man, and distinguished as a legislator, Mr. Boyer has discharged every duty that has devolved upon him with credit and honor.

DANIEL PRICE, president of the First National bank at Pottstown, is a son of Hon. William and Lydia (Urner) Price, and was born in North Coventry township, Chester county, Pennsylvania, on March 9, 1827.

The ancestors of Mr. Price, both paternal and maternal for several generations back, were natives and residents of Chester and Montgomery counties. Indeed they were among the very earliest settlers of these counties and were uniformly noted for their thrift and prosperity as farmers. His great-grandfather's name was George Price, and his grandfather was Daniel Price, both of whom died in Chester county.

Hon. William Price, our subject's father, was born in North Coventry township, county of Chester, in 1801. He was reared on the farm, educated in the schools of his native township, and followed the occupation of farming for a number of

years, in connection with which he operated a large saw-mill. In politics he was a Whig and took an active and commendable interest in all political and civil matters affecting his county. By reason of his fidelity to the public interest, he was elected to the State legislature and during his term of service was the author of a number of bills which always reflected a wise and cautious judgment. He was united in marriage to Miss Lydia Urner, and to this union were born six children, of which the subject of this sketch is the only one now surviving. Those deceased are: Sarah A., wife of George Crull, of Montgomery county; Elizabeth, wife of Franklin Baugh, a practicing lawyer of the Philadelphia bar; Caroline, wife of Thomas Sprague, of California; Jonas Urner, and Hon. Nathan Urner. The former of the two last mentioned was a graduate of Union college, Schenectady, New York, and at the outbreak of the Civil war enlisted in the Union army. He was killed in the first engagement at Green Briar Valley, West Virginia, and now lies buried at Cheat Mountain summit. Nathan, the youngest brother, after enjoying a liberal education, read law and began his professional career in the State of Kansas. He rapidly rose in his profession to a position of honor and usefulness. He became a member of both houses of the legislature of his adopted State and subsequently was elevated to the office of judge of the district court. At the expiration of his term of service, he resumed the practice of law which he followed until his death. He also enlisted in the service of his country during the late Civil war where he was soon given a captain's commission on account of valorous conduct. As an evidence of the respect and high esteem in which he was held, one of the Grand Army posts of the State of Kansas was christened in his honor.

Daniel Price, our subject, received his early education in the local schools, later entering Pottstown Academy and afterwards the academy of Joshua Hoopes at West Chester. After finishing his academical course, he was attracted to Philadelphia where he accepted a position as book-keeper. He followed this vocation for a period of nine years, at the expiration of which time he was induced to leave his position in Philadelphia to accept that of clerk in the Pottstown bank. This was on September 14, 1857, the date of the organization of that institution. Mr. Price continued in this capacity until the year 1861, at which date his integrity and financial ability brought him the position of cashier. On November 22, 1864, the bank was re-organized and became a National bank, and in January, 1867, Mr. Price was made its president. His former services and well recognized probity received through this promotion only an additional recognition of his worth, and Mr. Price has deservedly continued to merit the confidence of both stockholders and patrons of the bank. Besides his connection with the National bank, Mr. Price is one of the managers of the Cold Storage and Ice company of Pottstown, formerly a manager of the Schuylkill bridge and is at present a member of the town council. In politics he was originally a Whig, but after the birth of the Republican party, affiliated with it. He is in no sense a politician, but accepts the citizen's responsibility, and contributes his best efforts toward the moral, intellectual and industrial improvement of his community. In these latter respects he has been an indefatigable and faithful worker.

Daniel Price has been twice married. His first marriage was in July, 1852, with

Malvina Wiley, a daughter of Dr. Penrose Wiley, of Penrose, Berks county, by whom he had five children, two of whom died in infancy, and three are yet living: Mary, wife of W. Stewart, a chemist; Walter, (deceased) married to Florence Harburger of Pottstown, by whom he had three children—William, Daniel and Walter; and William, a graduate of Yale University and former tutor in that institution. Mr. Price's second marriage took place in 1868 to Mrs. Katharine C. Shewell, who subsequently died without issue. She was the daughter of Fred. R. Backus, and a granddaughter of Peter Keyser, a prominent official of the Dunkard church.

Mr. Price is a man of good business qualities, excellent social standing and leads a very active and useful life. He is a man of intellectual force, unassuming in manner and has contributed not a little to the up-building and advancement of the community in which he lives.

WILLIAM W. POTTS, who served in the Civil war and is now a leading farmer of Swedeland, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, is the representative of an old and honored Pennsylvania family that dates back to the time of William Penn. He was born December 1, 1838, at Swedeland, this county, and is the youngest son of Robert T. and Eliza M. (Hiltner) Potts. The founder of the American branch of the family, David Potts, great-great-grandfather of the subject of this sketch, came to this country from Bristol, England, with Markam, when a young man, and settled at Bristol, Bucks county, Pennsylvania. He was a Quaker in religion, a farmer by occupation, and in 1693 married Alice Crosdale, who came over in the ship *Welcome* from England with William Penn. One of their sons was Nathan Potts, (great-grandfather), who was born and reared at Bristol, and later settled near Plymouth meeting house in Montgomery county. He was a farmer and blacksmith, and in religion a member of the Society of Friends. In 1736 he married Esther Rhodes, and reared a family of six children: Daniel, Stephen, Nathan, Alice, Zebulon, and Isaiah. Hon. Zebulon Potts, (grandfather), was born and grew to manhood on the old homestead near Plymouth meeting house, and afterward engaged in agricultural pursuits in Plymouth township. He became a prominent politician, served as the first sheriff of Montgomery county, and was afterward elected to the State senate of Pennsylvania, in which he died while serving his second term. In religion he adhered to the faith in which he was reared, being a strict member of the Society of Friends until expelled for enlisting in the American army during the war of the Revolution. In that contest he served with distinction, taking part in the battle of Brandywine, and other historic struggles. He was also a member of the committee of safety with Robert Morris and others, and was honored by having a price set on his head by the British government, for the active interest he took in behalf of the struggling colonies. After the war he served as justice of a court in Philadelphia, and occupied other positions of trust and emolument. In 1771 he married Martha Trotter, of Philadelphia, and they had a family of ten children: Ann, Joseph, Esther, Hannah, Alice, Ester, Martha, William, Robert T. and Daniel.

Robert T. Potts, (father), was born at Plymouth township, in 1790, and after securing a good common school education

became a clerk for Harmon Yerkes, at Harmonville, where he remained until twenty-one years of age. He then went to Philadelphia and embarked in the wholesale dry goods trade, which he conducted successfully until 1838. In the latter year he purchased property at Swedeland and removed to Montgomery county. He was an ardent Whig in politics, and was a candidate for congress in the Henry Clay campaign. The county being largely Democratic, he was defeated, but was active in both local and general politics for many years. In 1828 he married Eliza M. Hitner, a native of Whitemarsh, and a daughter of Daniel Hitner, of Marble Hall, and granddaughter of Daniel, who was a soldier of the Revolution and was killed at the battle of Germantown. To their union was born a family of five children, three sons and two daughters: Henry C., Ellen E., widow of R. L. Rutter, of Philadelphia; Ellery C., Martha T., and William W. Robert T. Potts died December 13th, 1873, at Swedeland, this county, aged eighty-four. His wife had preceded him in 1851, at the age of fifty-nine.

William W. Potts was reared at Swedeland, where he obtained his elementary education in the public schools. In 1851 he entered Haverford college, where he remained until 1854. He then studied for one year at the Pennsylvania State college at Bellefonte. After leaving college in April, 1861, he enlisted in Company K, 4th Pennsylvania infantry, under Captain Cook and Colonel John F. Hartranft. At the end of his term of service, Mr. Potts reenlisted in Company F, 124th Pennsylvania infantry. He was seriously wounded at the battle of Antietam, which incapacitated him for further service, and he was discharged on account of disability. Returning to Montgomery county, he soon afterward engaged in farming at Swedeland, and has been connected with agricultural pursuits ever since, in which he has been successful and is regarded as among the most progressive farmers of his community.

Politically Mr. Potts has always been a Republican. His first vote was cast for Abraham Lincoln and A. G. Curtin in 1860. He has always been active in support of his party, but never entertained any political ambitions for himself. He served as school director for a number of years and was treasurer of the school board for some time. Since 1865 he has been a member of Charity Lodge No. 190, Free and Accepted Masons; and is also connected with Zook Post No. 11, Grand Army of the Republic, Norristown; also vice-president of the Historical society of Montgomery county.

On November 9th, 1870, Mr. Potts was united in marriage to Ella Holstein, a daughter of Dr. G. W. Holstein, of Bridgeport. To Mr. and Mrs. Potts have been born five children: Brita H., Helen R., Carrie, Abbie, (deceased); and Ella.

WILLIAM AUCHENBACH, founder and senior member of the wholesale grocery firm of William Auchenbach & Sons, of Pottstown, is a native of Pottsville, Schuylkill county, where he was born February 22, 1832. His parents were Henry and Mary (Shultz) Auchenbach, both natives of Berks county, this State. Henry Auchenbach, (father), was a carpenter by trade, and shortly after marriage moved to Pottsville, from whence he removed to Reading, Berks county, when the subject of this sketch was an infant. Politically he was a Democrat, and in religion a member

of the Methodist church. He died in 1852, aged fifty-one years, and his wife passed away in 1888, in the eighty-seventh year of her age. They were buried in the Charles Evans cemetery in Reading.

William Auchenbach was a pupil in the public schools at Reading until he reached the age of nine years, when he went to work in a tobacco shop, and had no further opportunity to attend school. His additional education was acquired in the university of practical life, and that he was an apt student of the world is attested by the success he won. From the tobacco works he went into a store in Reading as clerk and salesman, and after six years in that position he went to work for the Reading Railroad company in the foundry department in that city. There he remained two years, after which he came to Pottstown, in 1850, and engaged as clerk in the general store of Daniel H. Beecher, with whom he remained in that capacity for four years. In 1854 Mr. Auchenbach was admitted to a partnership in the business, but one year later disposed of his interest and embarked in the dry goods and grocery business.

This enterprise he conducted successfully for a year and a half, when on account of failing health he sold out and purchased a farm so as to live more in the open air. At the end of four years the pure air and outdoor exercise had completely restored his health and Mr. Auchenbach sold his farm and once more engaged in merchandising. When the Civil war occurred, he again sold his store and enlisted in the Federal army. Upon its organization, Mr. Auchenbach was elected captain of Company H, 68th Pennsylvania infantry, and served with his command in the Army of the Potomac for one year. He then resigned, and returning to Pennsylvania, again embarked in the grocery business at Pottstown. Here he continued the retail grocery trade until 1890, when in partnership with his sons, Harry and Frank Auchenbach, he enlarged the sphere of his operations and began the wholesale grocery business, under the firm name of William Auchenbach & Sons. Their business has rapidly assumed large proportions and now extends over a wide reach of territory.

Besides his wholesale grocery business, Mr. Auchenbach is closely identified with a number of other important enterprises of Pottstown. He has been stockholder and director in the Pottstown Gas and Water company ever since its organization, and is now the only original director. He is a stockholder and president of the Pottstown Textile mills, and a stockholder in the Pottstown Market company, and in a number of other business and industrial enterprises in this city. He has served as a councilman and school director, and is a director of the First Building and Loan association, of Pottstown.

In 1854 Mr. Auchenbach was married to Anna Wambach, a daughter of Bartholomew Wambach, of Montgomery county, and by that union had three children, one of whom died in infancy. The other two are Harry and Frank, both now partners with their father in the wholesale business. On January 8, 1867, Mrs. Auchenbach died, aged thirty-eight years, and on the 17th of June, 1868, Mr. Auchenbach married Effie Bachtel, a daughter of Joshua Bachtel, of Pottstown. Mr. Auchenbach is a member of Stitcher Lodge No. 254, Free and Accepted Masons, of which he is past master, and is also a Knight Templar. His career shows what may be accomplished by energy, ability and continued application to a wisely chosen and honorable vocation.

Sam'l Jarrett

SAMUEL F. JARRETT, who served for three consecutive terms as treasurer of Montgomery county, is a son of David and Rebecca (Farra) Jarrett, and was born in Upper Providence township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, Nov. 19, 1825. The Jarretts are of Scotch origin, and the Farras of Welsh and English extraction.

The Jarrett family was in the county as early as the Rittenhouse family, and its founder in America was from the far famed Highlands of Scotland. One of his decendants, John Jarrett, was born in 1719, and married Alice Conrad. Their children were: John, Mary, Elizabeth, Hannah, Rachel, William, Alice, Jonathan, David, Jesse, Tracy and Joseph. Jesse Jarrett was a farmer and life long resident of this county. He wedded Elizabeth Palmer, and to them were born six children: Mary, married Isaac Shoemaker, a farmer, now dead; David, a farmer, who lived to see his ninety-third birthday; Alice; Joseph, a farmer; Tracy, wedded James Kirk, a farmer, and John, who became a merchant in Philadelpha. David Jarrett (father) was born in Whitemarsh township, October 24, 1797, and became a farmer in Upper Providence township, which he left in 1836, to settle in Plymouth township. He died October 20, 1890, aged ninety-three years, and his remains rest in Plymouth cemetery. He was a Friend and served for several years as a school director. He married Rebecca Farra, who was a daughter of Atkinson Farra, of Norristown, and died Feb. 11, 1876, aged seventy-nine years. They were parents of eight children: Jesse, a farmer and builder of Lower Providence township; Samuel F. (subject); Charles P., a mechanic, who was killed while serving as a soldier in the late Civil war; Atkinson F., of Norristown, Pa.; Elizabeth Jarrett; John, now deceased; Lucretia, who married Joseph Umstead, a farmer, and C. Halkley, a mechanic.

Samuel F. Jarrett was reared in Upper Providence and Plymouth townships, received his education in the early common schools of Montgomery county, and remained with his father on the farm until he was twenty-four years of age. He then engaged in farming for himself in Lower Providence township, where he remained up to 1853. In that year he purchased and removed to his present farm which is in Norriton township and only two and a half miles from Norristown. He has been very successful as a farmer, and has done well in dairying, which he made a specialty nearly twenty years ago.

On June 3, 1849, Mr. Jarrett married Amanda Crawford, whose parents, Joseph and Rebecca (Francis) Crawford were residents of Lower Providence township. To Mr. and Mrs. Jarrett were born two children: Emma, who died in infancy, and Anna R., wife of Dr. W. H. Reed, of Norristown.

Mr. Jarrett was among the first to enlist in the Norris Cavalry when Lee threatened Pennsylvania, and did two months of efficient "emergency service" in Maryland. He is a member of the Society of Friends, and has always been a pronounced Republican. In 1872 he was nominated by his party for county treasurer, and, although in a strong Democratic locality, was elected by a majority of twelve votes. He was re-nominated the next year by acclamation and secured his election by a fair majority. At the end of his second term he was again nominated and for a term of three years. He was elected by an increased majority and upon the expiration of his third term retired from political life and turned entire attention to his business affairs. The

capable manner in which he handled the county finances brought him into public notice, and his services were frequently sought in affairs where a considerable amount of capital is involved. From farming and dairying he branched out into other lines of business in which he has been successful. Mr. Jarrett is a director in the People's National bank of Norristown, and a stockholder in the First National bank of Conshohocken, the Farmers' and Mechanics' bank of Phœnixville, Chester county, the First National bank of Jenkintown, and all the National banks of Norristown. He is a stockholder in the Ridge Avenue and Spring Garden Farmers' Market of Philadelphia; and a director and manager of the Norristown Farmers' Market. Mr. Jarrett has given some attention to railways, and at present is a stockholder of the Lehigh Valley, and the Philadelphia, Germantown and Norristown Railroad companies.

SAMUEL VERNON RUBY, A.M., Ph.D. professor of the English Language and Literature, Aesthetics and Social Science in Ursinus college, was born at Carlisle, Pennsylvania, May 22, 1832. He was fitted for college in the Preparatory school at Mercersburg, and, at the same place, was a student in Marshall college from September, 1849, to March, 1853, when Marshall college was transferred to Lancaster and united with Franklin college. After a sojourn at Lancaster for eleven weeks he was graduated from Franklin and Marshall college in August, 1853. At Lancaster he read law in the office of Hon. Thaddeus Stevens, and completed his studies at Carlisle, where he was admitted to practice in 1858. He was immediately successful in his profession, and continued busily engaged in it until the breaking out of the great rebellion.

On the 21st day of April, 1861, he enlisted as a volunteer in defence of the nation. The company whose roll bears his name became Company A, 7th regiment infantry, P. R. V. C., and in this he served as private, sergeant, 1st sergeant, 2nd lieutenant, and 1st lieutenant. He participated as commander of his company in the battle of second Bull Run, August 27, 28, 29, 1862; as 2nd lieutenant in the battle of South Mountain, September 14, 1862; Antietam, September 16, 17, 1862; First Fredericksburg, December 13, 1862; and commanded the first division of his regiment, consisting of Companies A and E, in the battle of the Wilderness, Virginia, May 5, 1864. On this day his regiment was captured, and he suffered imprisonment for the space of ten months. After his return from imprisonment he was appointed, April, 1865, by the secretary of war as 1st lieutenant in Hancock's Corps of Veteran Volunteers, and in August of the same year was promoted to captain, and was placed in command of Company D, 3rd regiment of that corps. In April, 1866, he was honorably discharged.

Lieutenant Ruby was judge advocate of the military district of Alexandria, Virginia, from June, 1863, to April, 1864; also, when a captain was judge advocate and assistant inspector general at Camp Butler, Illinois, during a part of the years 1865 and 1866.

Having decided not to return to the practice of law, he obtained the position of principal of the third district grammar school, Dayton, Ohio. In this position he served one year. In August, 1868, he became professor of ancient languages, and

belles lettres, in Palatinate college, at Myerstown, Pennsylvania. In this position he labored faithfully and successfully for the space of four years, doing much good and winning many friends. In the summer of 1872 Prof. Ruby received a call to the chair of English, etc., in Ursinus college.

Here his line of work was considerably changed. He ceased teaching Latin and Greek, and instead taught logic, English literature, and political economy. Soon after receiving this appointment he began to restudy psychology and ethics, which, however, led him to new thought concerning teaching. As a result he undertook a rebuilding of the study of English in the collegiate curriculum. He started with a thorough drill in the elementary sounds of the English language and the principles of pronunciation; held that punctuation is necessary to sentence construction; taught that the paragraph is not only the unit of discourse, but also the key to its interpretation; and made the study of grammar, rhetoric, and logic, in their order, and as illustrated in English master pieces, the prerequisites of good writing.

During the earlier years of his connection with the faculty of Ursinus he taught natural history. Botany became one of his favorite branches. He also gave attention to chemistry, zoology, and mineralogy. The ideas which Professor Ruby has emphasized in his teaching are elaborated in addresses delivered by him before the faculty and students of Ursinus college. The addresses are ten in number. The first is on the studies requisite to a proper understanding of English letters; the second, on the literary critics and literary criticism; the third, on the education of the American citizen; the fourth, on the genius and value of the government of the United States; the fifth, on the theory and practice of logic; the sixth, on the contents and application of aesthetics; the seventh, on the activities of the reason; the eighth, on two questions of vital importance to our nation; the ninth, on human culture; the tenth, on the national language in the collegiate curriculum.

Poetry has also had its charms for him. He began at an early age to read English verse, and while at college wrote many pretty lines. His best collegiate effort was a poem of some twenty minutes in length, 'Napoleon's retreat from Moscow,' delivered at Mercersburg, on the occasion of the anniversary of the Goethean Literary society, held in March, 1853. Other poems followed, and a few found their way into periodicals. His last poem is on "Spring, a Pennsylvania idyl." From it we quote the Prelude:

To picture with its throbs and throes;
To picture as it comes and goes
With mellow voice and silver ring,
The yearly Pennsylvania Spring—
Is now my task. We need no more
Of British taste, or British lore;
Of Oxford cap, or Cambridge gown,
Or Britain's Thomson of renown,
To paint our seasons as they fly,
With changing scene and fitful sky.
Within our hearts are penciled fair
The very currents of our air,
The trilling of each gentle rill,
The light and shade on every hill,
The clouds that sink or rise to view
Upon our mountain's ridge of blue,
Or sailing far in cloud land by,
With beauty decorate the sky.
In every forest, every grove,
We hear some tender lay of love;
And by the barn, or orchard near,
The simplest songs to household dear.
River and wood, and valley green,
And all that marks the landscape scene,
Are ours: the bird, the brook, the flower,
Rain and sunshine, and April shower,
Have filled our hearts, until their glow
Gives Spring tide in its flush and flow.

EDGAR S. COOK, president of the Warwick Iron company, is a son of Jesse M. and Sarah (Scudder) Cook, and was born in the city of Philadelphia, Aug. 25, 1851. His paternal grandfather, Daniel Cook, was of English descent, and passed his life in New Jersey, of which State he was a native. He was a large land holder in his day, and died in 1837. He was a justice of the peace and an active member of the Presbyterian church. His father, Samuel Cook, was a descendant of one of six Cook brothers, who came from England to Rhode Island about 1660. Jesse M. Cook, the father of Edgar S. Cook, was born and reared in New Jersey and received his education at Lafayettee college. At nineteen years of age he came to Philadelphia, and shortly afterwards, in connection with a Mr. Moore, established and operated a line of omnibusses. Later he withdrew from the omnibus business to become a member of the firm of Cain, Hacker & Cook, which dealt extensively in the mining and selling of Schuylkill county anthracite coal, until President Gowan, of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad company, absorbed nearly all of the coal interests in the Schuylkill county anthracite region. When Mr. Gowan came in control of the coal trade, Mr. Cook removed to the eastern shore of Maryland and engaged in the small fruit business there on a farm which he had purchased about the close of the late Civil war. After ten years spent actively and successfully as a small fruit raiser and dealer, he retired from active business and still resides in Maryland. While a coal operator in Schuylkill county, Mr. Cook was also a manufacturer of pig iron at Monocacy, Berks county. He has been successively a Whig and Republican in politics, and is a Chapter and Commandery Mason, and a consistent member of the Presbyterian church, having been an elder for many years of the Tenth and Arch Street church of Philadelphia. Mr. Cook was born September 23, 1821, and has been not only a successful, but also a useful business man. He married Sarah Scudder, whose father, John Scudder, was a native and farmer of New Jersey. To their union were born six children, of whom four are living: Henry C., of Philadelphia; Kate S., wife of George H. Potts; Sallie A., who married Dr. John Dale, of Princess Ann county, Maryland; and Edgar S., whose name appears at the head of this sketch. The two children who died were: Carrie B., aged sixteen, and May E., who was twenty years of age.

Edgar S. Cook was reared in his native city, and received his education in the Philadelphia Central High school, from which he was graduated at the head of the class of July, 1869, whose average was the highest of all the class averages up to that date. After graduation he became a clerk in the office of Cain, Hacker & Cook, and in 1871 went to Monocacy, Berks county, where he was bookkeeper for two years and manager for three years of the blast furnace of that place. In 1877 he came to Pottstown as manager of the Warwick furnace, and in 1891, upon the death of Isaac Fegeley, was elected president of the Warwick Iron company, which important and responsible position he still holds. He is also president of the Pottstown Light, Heat and Power company, and is a member of the board of health and in many other ways has served to promote the interests of the borough.

On January 2, 1879, Mr. Cook was united in marriage with Josephine Bailey, of Pottstown. To their union have been born

five children, four sons and one daughter: Edward B., Joseph W., Richard B., Harry, and Jessie M., who passed away January 18, 1891.

Edgar S. Cook is a capable and efficient business man and handles well the extensive and varied operations of the large company, at whose head he has been serving for the last five years. He is a Republican in politics, and a member of the First Presbyterian church, of whose board of trustees he has served as president for several years.

JOHN CRAWFORD SPEAR, Medical Inspector U. S. N., now a resident of Norristown, is a son of Hon. John C. and Mary F. (Hanson) Spear, and was born near Middletown, New Castle county, Delaware. The Spears are of English descent, while the Hansons are of Swedish extraction, and both families were among the pioneer settlers of Delaware and Pennsylvania. Dr. Spear's grandfather was Andrew Spear, and his father, Hon. John C. Spear, was born in New Castle county, Delaware, July 10, 1807. He was an excellent farmer, and a progressive man, and died in June, 1867. He was a Whig, and an Episcopalian, and served as a member of the Delaware legislature. In 1836 he married Mary F. Hanson, a daughter of Isaac Hanson, and to their union were born six children. John Crawford Spear was graduated as a doctor of medicine from the University of Pennsylvania in 1861, and directly after receiving his degree he was examined by the Naval Medical Examining board for assistant surgeon in the U. S. navy and was commissioned as such May 9, 1861. His first orders were to the steam frigate *Roanoke*, on the blockade off Charleston and Wilmington. In the autumn of the same year his vessel had a short engagement with the rebel ports at Hattrass Inlet, and March 8th and 9th, 1862, she was in the memorable naval battle between the United States vessels of war and the rebel iron clad *Merrimac* in Hampton Roads. The *Roanoke* was under a heavy fire from the ports at Sewell's Point for several hours on the first day of the fight, and she also received occasional shots from the *Merrimac* on the same afternoon. Having a broken shaft, she was towed into action by a river steamboat, Commodore Marston acting as commander-in-chief. In this engagement, on learning by signal that lieutenant commanding John L. Warden, the captain of the *Monitor* was badly wounded, the commodore sent Dr. Spear on board to aid the medical officer of the *Monitor* in operating upon Captain Worden's eyes, which were filled with powder from the explosion of a shell over the peep-hole in the pilot house. In the spring of 1862, Assistant Surgeon Spear joined the United States steamer *Mahaska*, and saw much arduous and perilous service on the York and James rivers, being many times under heavy fire from earth work and field artillery and sharp shooting on the river bank. At the battle of Malvern Hill many wounded soldiers of the Union army came under his care, both on board his vessel and on shore. In the same year he served as surgeon and adjutant of a land expedition to Matthews Court House, Virginia, commanded by Commander Foxhall A. Parker, in which there were several skirmishes with the enemy. Later in the year on the same vessel he was under a heavy fire for several hours from shore batteries at the mouth of Cape Fear river.

On the application of Fleet Surgeon

William Maxwell Wood, Dr. Spear was detached from the *Mahaska* and ordered as surgeon of the flagship *Minnesota*, though very young in rank and years. His turn for examination for promotion came in the summer of 1863, and he was ordered to Philadelphia, where he passed successfully. For several months he was stationed at the Philadelphia navy yard, and on receiving his promotion to full surgeon in June, 1864, was ordered to the West Gulf Blockading squadron, under Admiral Farragut, and assigned to the *Seminole*. He was present at the bombardment and surrender of Fort Morgan, Mobile Bay, and later saw service on the blockade on the coast of Texas, serving there both on the *Seminole* and *Monongahela*. He saw many cases of yellow fever during his tour of duty in the gulf of Mexico. At the close of the war in the *Monongahela*, he returned home and was shortly assigned as attending surgeon in the city of Washington, and at the same time did duty as assistant chief of the bureau of medicine and surgery in the naval department.

His first foreign service was seen on the *Swatara*, Commander William N. Jeffers. She visited all the principal ports in the West Indies and on the *Spanish Main*, then cruised in Europe, and finally on the west coast of Africa. The cruise was unusually extended and interesting. Many of the ship company on the coast of Africa, off the mouth of the Congo river, were stricken with a severe form of congestice malarial fever, but happily no one succumbed. He was transferred to the flagship *Franklin*, Admiral Farragut, at Gibraltar, and returned to New York in the autumn of 1868. He was elected a member of the academy of natural sciences, Philadelphia, in 1869. Surgeon General William Wood selected him as geologist of the United States Tehuantepec surveying expedition under Admiral Shufeldt in 1870–1. He wrote a report on the geology and general resources of the isthmus of Tehuantepec, with reference to the proposed construction of a ship canal there. The work done on the isthmus by Dr. Spear was officially commended by Admiral Shufeldt, and highly spoken of by Prof. Fuertes, of Cornell university. After a short tour of duty at the naval hospital in Philadelphia, he joined the steamer *Omaha*, and made a long cruise, visiting Brazil, the straits of Magellen, Chili, Peru, Ecuador, Panama and some of the Pacific islands. He made an examination of the extensive coal deposits in the interior north of the strait of Magellen, and wrote an official report about them. He also in the same region observed natives washing gold in the bed of a small river and learned of the probable existence of gold there in quantity. A company was formed later in Chili to thoroughly explore this region for gold, and Dr. Spear was to have had charge of the party, but the death of the principal subscriber to the funds for the expedition put an end to the undertaking at that time. During their cruise one day off the east coast of Patagonia, Surgeon Spear went as one of a boat's crew of volunteers to pick up an officer and man over board, a heavy sea running at the time, the volunteer crew was in great peril, both in leaving and boarding the *Omaha*. On several occasions while in Peru, Dr. Spear obtained leave and visited the interior, abounding in interesting ruins, and wrote popular accounts of his explorations for the newspapers at home. He served in 1875–6 on the Monitor *Dictator*, North Atlantic squadron. A large fleet of Monitors and other war

vessels were assembled in Port Royal waters on account of the probability of war with Spain, when an epidemic of yellow fever broke out in the vicinity. Surgeon Spear devised and executed necessary quarantine measures to protect the fleet under the orders of the commander-in-chief of the station, who on the 4th of October, 1876, wrote to the secretary of the navy: "Surgeon Spear rendered efficient service, especially in recommending measures to prevent the introduction of yellow fever with which we have been threatened. It is in my opinion due largely to his energy and judgment in this direction that I have been able to report that among the vessels here there has been no sickness of any description. He deserved the favorable consideration of the navy department." The doctor was also instrumental in discovering a source of potable water in quantity sufficient for the fleet near Port Royal, where till then either distilled water or water brought in a boat from Charleston had to be obtained from the station at great expense. He further kept such health data of Port Royal waters as to furnish proof in a congressional debate of the healthfulness of the place and its suitableness for a naval station or salubrious rendezvouing for a fleet.

After serving on various examining boards in the navy department, he was in October promoted to medical inspector with the relative rank of Commander in the navy. The following year he was assigned as fleet surgeon of the European station, under Rear Admiral Howell, flagship *Trenton*. This cruise was about two years, and most of the principal seaports and countries in Europe were visited. During this cruise he wrote many interesting letters of travel, which were published in the Philadelphia Evening Telegraph. Returning from sea, he was again employed on the examining board in Washington and Philadelphia. He has served much on this duty. Indeed a large number of the younger medical officers of the navy have been professionally examined by Dr. Spear, either for admission to the naval service or for promotion. In the summer of 1883 he joined the New York naval station as chief surgeon of the navy yard and filled this position for three years, when he was assigned as director of the United States naval laboratory at the same station. He served one year here when he was granted leave of absence on account of ill health. He was placed on the retired list in September, 1888, and has since resided at Norristown. He is a companion of the Loyal Legion. Dr. Spear was president of the Montgomery County Medical society in 1892.

In 1865 Dr. Spear married Emma L. Mulvany, daughter of Hon. Daniel H. Mulvany, of Norristown. To this union have been born five children: Roscoe, born at Norristown, January 9, 1872; Raymond, at Nice, France, March 18, 1873; John Van Couwenhoven, born at Washington city, Christmas, 1877, and died April 10, 1893; Bertha, November 16, 1879; and Reginald, May 16, 1881. Mrs. Spear is a member of the Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution, as she is a direct descendant of the old Couwenhoven and Forman Revolutionary families.

Roscoe Spear, eldest son of Dr. Spear, though born in Norristown, received the major part of his early education in France. Later he attended the Brooklyn Polytechnic institute, and was finally prepared for entrance to the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis, Maryland, by private instruction. He was graduated from the lat-

ter institution in 1894, having "passed with credit." After graduation he was assigned to service in the United States navy, and is now serving as a cadet on the flagship *San Francisco*, European squadron.

BENJAMIN F. WHITBY, a leading business man of Norristown, is a son of Anthony and Mary (Supplee) Whitby, and was born at Norristown, Pennsylvania, October 7, 1843. The family is of Scotch descent, its first representative in America, so far as known, being John Whitby, paternal great grandfather of the subject of this sketch, who came over from Scotland in the latter part of the eighteenth century and settled in Montgomery County. Among his sons was John Dunlap Whitby (grandfather,) who was a farmer by occupation, served as a soldier in the war of 1812, and resided in Norriton township during the latter years of his life. His son, Anthony Whitby (father) was born in Norriton township, this county, February 13th, 1803, and in earlier life learned the weaver's trade, at which he became very expert. After following that occupation for a number of years, his attention was turned to farming, which business he successfully conducted on the farm now occupied by the Montgomery cemetery and the homestead of Joseph E. Rapp, for a period of eighteen years. He then removed to Lower Providence township, this county, and purchased the farm now occupied by his son, James M. Whitby. There he passed the remainder of his life, engaged in agricultural pursuits, dying November 2nd, 1870, at the age of sixty-seven years. Politically, he was a staunch Democrat, and for many years an active trustee of the Lower Providence Presbyterian church. In 1830 he married Mary Supplee, a daughter of Edward Supplee, of Merion township, and by that union had a family of ten children, five sons and five daughters: Geo. W. and Mary Ann, now deceased; John D.; Elizabeth J., married Henry S. Kulp, secretary of the Mutual Fire Insurance company, of Montgomery county; William M.; James M., now residing on the old homestead in Lower Providence township; Benjamin F., whose name heads this sketch; Isabella K.; Sallie R., wife of W. A. Shearer, of Eagleville, this county; and Emma J., who married James R. Weikel, of Trappe. Mrs. Whitby, mother of this family, died in 1850, in the forty-second year of her age, and her remains lie beside those of her husband in the cemetery at Lower Providence Presbyterian church.

Benjamin F. Whitby spent his early years on the farm near Norristown, and removed with his father's family, when five years old, to Lower Providence township. He remained on the farm until sixteen years of age, receiving his education in the public schools and at Washington Hall, Trappe. Soon after leaving school, he began teaching, and was thus employed for a period of five years. In 1868 he embarked in agricultural pursuits in Lower Providence township, to which he applied himself for a dozen years very successfully, and at the expiration of that time removed to Eagleville, in that township, where he began the business of a conveyancer and real estate dealer, in addition to performing his duties as a justice of the peace, to which office he had been elected in 1878, while still on the farm. This combined business he conducted on an extensive scale for a period of fourteen years. In 1894 he removed to Norristown, where he has since resided, being still engaged in the general real estate busi-

ness, and June 17th, 1895, was appointed treasurer of Montgomery county.

On January 31st, 1868, Mr. Whitby was married to Annie G. Custer, only daughter of Jacob G. Custer, a prosperous farmer of Lower Providence township, this county. Their only child, a daughter, Cora C., recently graduated from the Broad Street Conservatory of music, in Philadelphia, with the highest honors of the class. Mrs. Whitby died October 23, 1893, at the age of fifty-one years, and her remains rest in the cemetery of the Lower Providence Presbyterian church, in which church she was a faithful member and an active worker for a period of twenty-seven years.

In politics Mr. Whitby is a Democrat and has frequently served as a member of the county executive committee of his party. He served as a justice of the peace for five years, and also as a school director in Lower Providence township for some time. His name has been mentioned as a candidate of his party for assemblyman and other offices of importance, but he has always declined the candidacy. He is a director and secretary of the board of directors of the Spring Garden Market company, and was one of the originators of that enterprise. For twenty years he served as secretary of a beneficial society at Eagleville, of which he is still a member, and for nearly a quarter of a century was an elder in the Lower Providence Presbyterian church, only resigning that position upon his removal to Norristown. He was always active in every good work undertaken by his church, and for a number of years served as superintendent of its large Sabbath school. For many years he has been a member of the Masonic fraternity, being now connected with Warren Lodge No. 310, of Trappe. He has been a director in the Montgomery National bank of Norristown for many years. His fine residence at the corner of Haas avenue and Main street is built upon what was the handsome lawn of the late Governor of Pennsylvania, John F. Hartranft, deceased.

GEORGE C. MORGAN, proprietor of the well known Morgan flouring mills of Norristown, is a son of Antrim F. and Martha (Harris) Morgan, and was born at Chester Springs, Chester county, Pennsylvania, June 10, 1856. He is of Welsh descent on the paternal side, and the immigrant ancester of the Morgan family was Morgan Morgan, sr., who came from Wales to Montgomery county over a hundred years ago. He was a farmer by occupation, and his son, Morgan Morgan, (grandfather), was reared on the farm, but left farming to engage in blacksmithing and gunsmithing, which he followed during the active years of his life. He served for many years as a justice of the peace at Montgomeryville, where he died at an advanced age. He married and reared a family, and his son, Antrim F. Morgan, is the father of the subject of this sketch. Antrim F. Morgan was born March 8, 1818, at Montgomeryville, where he received his education. Some years after attaining his majority he removed to Chester Springs, Chester County, where he was engaged in the milling business for a number of years, where the subject was born. He then removed to Quakertown, Bucks county, where he has followed farming ever since. He was a Whig, then a Republican in early and middle life, but of late years has affiliated with the Prohibition party, whose principles meet his approval and receive his support. He is a member of the Society

of Friends, as were all his family, and was connected for several years with the Quakertown Friends school. He takes an active interest in the temperance cause; was nominated for State senator on the Prohibition ticket of Bucks county, and was a member and worker in the order of Good Templars, while that organization was in its prime and active in the wide field of usefulness that lay around and beyond it.

He married Martha Harris, whose father was ——— Harris, of ———. To Mr. and Mrs. Morgan were born five children, three sons and two daughters: Thomas H.; Hannah, widow of S. F. Penrose, and now a resident of Quakertown, Bucks county; Kate, who wedded C. E. Smulling, of Quakertown, and is now deceased; George C., and Joseph A.

George C. Morgan, although born in Chester county, yet was reared at Quakertown, Bucks county, and received his education in the excellent Friends school at the latter place. Leaving school he made choice of an industrial pursuit for a life vocation and came to Conshohocken, where he spent two years with John J. Brooke in learning the trade of miller. At the close of his apprenticeship he went to Green Lane, where he was engaged in milling for two years. At the end of that time, in the spring of 1878, he came to Norristown and took charge of the Old Stony Creek mill at the bridge near Main street. After running this mill for one year he purchased it and the water power by which it was operated. He then tore the old mill down and erected his present large and well equipped flouring mill, which has a capacity of forty barrels of flour per day. His leading brands are the "Spray," "Lily White," and "Golden Light." In addition to operating his mill, he is a wholesale and retail dealer in grain and feed. Mr. Morgan is a Prohibitionist in political opinion. He takes an active interest in the Prohibition movement; has been for some time the managing editor of the *Montgomery County Prohibitionist*, and was a candidate for the legislature in 1894, receiving the largest vote cast on the Prohibition ticket in the county. Mr. Morgan is a director in the West Norristown Loan and Building association. He is a member of the Oak Street Methodist Episcopal church, of whose board of trustees he is serving as president. He is active and energetic, and has been successful in business.

On ———, 1880, Mr. Morgan married Inez Brooke, a daughter of John J. Brooke, of Conshohocken. To their union have been born eight children, three sons and five daughters: Warren B., Lottie, Elsie, died, fifteen months old; George R., John J., Inez, Blanche, and Janet.

H. B. DICKINSON, a well known member of the Montgomery county bar, who has been in successful practice at Norristown since 1863, is a native of this county, having been born in Whitemarsh township, April 14, 1836. His parents were Henry and Maria (Bigler) Dickinson, both descendants of early pioneers who settled in this country during the colonial period. The Dickinsons are of English Quaker origin, and trace their American ancestry back to John Dickinson, a member of the Constitutional congress, who on May 5, 1779, signed the Articles of Confederation and Perpetual Union between the State of Delaware. Prior to the Revolution members of the family had removed to Pennsylvania, and for a number of generations

their descendants have been residents of Montgomery county. Israel Dickinson, (grandfather), was a native of this county and a farmer by occupation. One of his sons, Joseph Dickinson, served as a captain in the war of 1812. Another son was Henry Dickinson, (father), who was born on the old homestead in Whitemarsh township, this county, June 12, 1799. He was a farmer by vocation, a Jacksonian Democrat in politics, and a strict member of the Society of Friends. During the more active part of his life he held a number of local offices and gave considerable attention to public affairs. He died in Whitemarsh township, in 1876, aged seventy-nine years, and his remains rest in the cemetery at Union church. In 1821 he married Maria Bigler, a daughter of George Bigler, who served with distinction in the Revolutionary war, and by that union had a family of twelve children, five of whom still survive.

H. B. Dickinson, the son and subject of this sketch, was reared on the farm in Whitemarsh township, and was educated in the public schools and at Treemont seminary, from which institution he was graduated in 1856, at the age of twenty. He then engaged in teaching, which occupation he followed successfully for a period of four years. At the end of that time, having determined to devote himself to the legal profession, he entered the office of Gilbert R. Fox, of Norristown, and began the study of law. On November 16. 1863, he was admitted to the bar of Montgomery county, and has ever since been in continuous practice. He was a candidate for district attorney soon after his admittance to the bar, and has acted in turn as solicitor for incumbents of every office in the county. For many years he has enjoyed a good general practice and is widely known throughout this part of the Keystone State.

In his political affiliations Mr. Dickinson has always been a Democrat, and until the last few years has taken an active interest in all civic and political affairs. He has served frequently as a delegate to the Democratic State and county conventions, and during a number of years was regarded as an active local leader of his party. He is a Friend in religious belief, and for a quarter of a century has been a member of the Masonic fraternity of Norristown.

On February 17, 1858, Mr. Dickinson was united in marriage with Sarah J. Martin, a daughter of John and Sarah Martin, of Gwynedd, this county. To them was born a family of nine children, only one of whom now survives. Their surviving son, Warren M. Dickinson, was born July 31, 1860, pursued his preparatory studies in the public schools of Norristown, and entered Princeton college in 1879. He was graduated from that institution of learning in 1883, after which he studied law with his father, and on October term, 1887, was admitted to practice before the courts of Montgomery county, and is now actively engaged in his profession. In 1893 he was married to Mary H. Hamill, a daughter of S. Porter Hamill, of Norristown, and has one child, a son named Lawrence B. Both wife and child died in the spring of 1895.

JOHN JAMES BECKER, agent of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad company, at West Conshohocken, is a son of James and Susanna (Glasser) Becker, and was born at Lehigh Church, near Alburtis, Lehigh county, Pennsylvania, December 1, 1861. He grew to manhood in his native State, received his education in the public

schools and Kutztown State Normal school, and then to fit himself thoroughly for commercial and industrial pursuits, took a course at Peirce's Business college of Philadelphia. Leaving the business college he was engaged in teaching in the public schools of Lehigh county for two years, and then learned telegraphy, which he followed at different places for the Perkiomen Railroad company, Philadelphia, Newtown and New York Railroad company, and Philadelphia, Reading and Pottsville Telegraph company for three and one-half years. At the end of that time he entered the employ of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad company, and was variously employed in station service for the next twelve months. He was then, in 1889, appointed station agent at West Conshohocken, where he has discharged the many duties of that position satisfactorily up to the present time. Mr. Becker is a Republican in political opinion, and is a member of the Evangelical Lutheran church. He is well acquainted with station work in all of its branches and details, and conducts everything upon safe business principles.

On December 11, 1888, Mr. Becker was united in marriage with Mary Alice Lesher, a daughter of Dr. Lesher, of Kutztown, Pennsylvania. Their union has been blessed with one child, a daughter, named Alma.

As the name would indicate, the Beckers are of German descent. They have been resident for six generations in this country, and James Becker, sr., the paternal grandfather of the subject of this sketch, was a native of Lynnville, Lehigh county. He was a large land owner, and a Democrat in politics. He wedded Hannah Sechler, of Lynnville, Pa., and their children, five in number, were Lewis, James, jr., Levi, and Amanda. James Becker, sr., died July 25, 1853, aged fifty years, and his wife passed away January 9, 1836, when in the thirty-first year of her age. Their son, James Becker (father), was born in Greenwich township, Berks county, and followed the occupation of farming at different places in Berks and Lehigh counties. He was a Democrat and Lutheran, like his father before him, and died October 11, 1866, when in the thirty-ninth year of his age. He married Susanna Glasser, who is still living at Kutztown, Pa. Mr. and Mrs. Becker reared a family of three children, one son and two daughters: Louisa A., who married Charles W. Miller; John James, whose name heads this sketch; and Hannah V., who wedded Morris Gehret.

The Becker family has been noted during the several generations of its American residence for the many sterling qualities of the Pennsylvania German race.

ALBERTUS HALLMAN, now engaged in the general mercantile business at Hartranft Station, is a son of Lewis and Sarah A. (Harner) Hallman and was born at Penn Square, Norriton Township, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania, August 18, 1853. Lewis Hallman was born in this county, January 29, 1816, and about 1848, removed to Penn Square, where he died March 19, 1894. He was a wheelwright and coach maker by trade, and followed that line of business for over forty-three years. He was a Democrat in politics, and served three terms as supervisor of roads in his township. He was a member of Boehm's church, and wedded Sarah A. Harner, a native of Montgomery county and a daughter of Samuel Harner. To their union was born four children, two

sons and two daughters: Dallas H., of Penn Square; Annie, now deceased; Albertus, whose name appears at the head of this sketch; and Mary Ida, wife of George W. Hoover, of Whitemarsh township.

Albertus Hallman was reared at Penn Square, and received his education in the common schools of his native township. Leaving school, he learned the trade of blacksmith, which he followed from 1877 to 1880, when he became a clerk in the store of Judge Hiram Hoover, of Hooverton. He soon became manager of the store, and in April, 1885, purchased the stock of goods from Judge Hoover. Mr. Hallman has kept up with the rapid advances made in the mercantile business during the last decade. He has a large and well selected stock of general merchandise and has built up a fine trade at Hooverton and in the surrounding country.

Well qualified for his special line of business, he has made it a success. He also does an extensive farming business in connection with the management of his general mercantile establishment. Mr. Hallman has always supported the principles of the Democratic party, and is a member of Boehm's Reformed Church, of Blue Bell, while he has acted as Treasurer for several years of the Penn Square Sunday school. He is a member of Curtis Lodge, No. 239, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, of Norristown, and has passed all of the chairs in Washington Camp, No. 322, Patriotic Order Sons of America, of Penn Square, in which he is now serving as a trustee.

On December 2, 1880, Mr. Hallman was united in marriage with Mary M. Hoover, and their union has been blessed with three children: Naomi H.; Margaret D.; and Nancy Iona. Mrs. Hallman is a daughter of Judge Hiram C. and Margaret (Dull) Hoover, of Hooverton. Judge Hoover is a member of the old Hoover family of eastern Pennsylvania, and has held many important offices. He was a member of the Pennsylvania house of representatives for two terms, and served as associate judge of Montgomery county from 1865 to 1875.

WILLIAM A. FINLEY, proprietor of the Hotel Finley, at Norristown, is a son of John S. and Phœbe (Rhodes) Finley, and was born the 13th day of May, 1853, at Norristown, Pennsylvania. He was reared in his native borough and educated in the public schools. When about twelve years of age he began work in Schall's rolling mill, and later learned the trade of machinist, but not feeling satisfied with the monotony of machine life, and possessing an inclination for the stage, he soon afterward adopted the theatrical profession. For nearly sixteen years he followed that vocation, with varying degrees of success, and abandoned it in 1889, to embark in the hotel business at Bridgeport, Pennsylvania. He conducted that enterprise successfully until 1892, when he sold out and purchased his present hotel property, the Hotel Finley, at Nos. 16 and 18 West Main street, to which he has ever since given his careful attention. He now enjoys a large patronage from the travelling public, and the reputation of being one of the successful and solid business men of the prosperous and rapidly growing borough of Norristown.

On April the 10th, 1880, Mr. Finley was married to Bella Capstick, of Norristown, and to them has been born one child, a daughter, named for her mother. In politics Mr. Finley is a Republican, but has never taken any active part in political

affairs. For several years he has been connected with a number of secret societies, being now a member of Montgomery Lodge No. 57, Independent Order of Odd Fellows; Washington Camp No. 51, Patriotic Order Sons of America; Philadelphia Lodge No. 2, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks; Kensington Lodge No. 55, Knights of Pythias, of Philadelphia; Montgomery Castle No. 34, Knights of the Golden Eagle, of Norristown; Beaver Tribe No. 62, Independent Order of Red Men; Iroquois Degree Council No. 10, I. O. R. M.; General Zook Post No. 11, Grand Army of the Republic, and was also for sixteen years connected with the Montgomery Hose and Steam Fire Engine company of Norristown.

The Finleys are of Scotch and German descent, and the family formerly resided in New Jersey. David Finley, paternal grandfather of the subject of this sketch, was long a resident of Pennsneck, this State, and there his son, John S. Finley, (father), was born in 1813. When quite young he went to Delaware county, Pa., but soon after came to Norristown, Montgomery county, where he entered the McCreedy mills. At that time Norristown was a small village. Later Mr. Finley learned the machinist's trade, and for a time had charge of Schall's rolling mill. He was also employed with Moore & Hooven. Politically he was a Democrat, and a Baptist in religion. He married Phoebe Rhodes in 1838, and to them was born a family of eight children: David, Ruth, Charles, John E., (a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this volume), Samuel, William A., subject of the foregoing sketch; James, and Albert. The father, John S. Finley, died in 1891, at the age of seventy-eight, and his wife preceded him in 1879, aged sixty-two. Their remains rest side by side in the Treemont cemetery at Norristown.

WILLIAM O'BRIEN, proprietor of the Montgomery hotel, of Pottstown, is a native of County Limerick, Ireland, where he was born January 6, 1848. His parents were Michael and Alice O'Brien, both natives of the Emerald Isle, and the father a carpenter by trade.

Their youngest son, William O'Brien, was reared in his native land, and educated in the public schools of Ireland. After leaving school he followed farming until June, 1865, when he emigrated to America, coming direct to Pottstown, Pennsylvania. Here Mr. O'Brien began to work as a laborer for the Reading Railroad company, but after two years left the road and secured employment at the Black Bear hotel for three years. For six years he remained at this hotel and then accepted a position at the Black Bear hotel in Douglasville, where he remained three years. From Douglasville Mr. O'Brien went to the Murphy hotel Pottstown, where he became connected with the saloon trade for a period of eleven years. In 1888 he returned to Pottstown and embarked in the coal, plaster and cement business, which he successfully conducted for two years. At the end of that time he sold out, and in 1891 purchased the Montgomery hotel property on Nos. 226 & 228 High street, Pottstown, which he now owns and manages. This hotel is conducted on the European plan, and is finely equipped and supplied with ever convenience for the comfort of guests.

Politically, Mr. O'Brien is an ardent Republican, and what may be termed a standing delegate, always ready to serve his party in any capacity. He organized the young Men's Republican club of Pottstown and never allowed it to want for money, but supported it financially from the beginning. It was principally through

his efforts that the club became a success, and it may justly be said that he wields a potent influence in local politics. Mr. O'Brien served as a delegate to the Republican State Convention of 1891, and took an active part in its deliberations. He also served one term in the town council of Pottstown.

In 1878 Mr. O'Brien was married to Theresa Kelly, a daughter of John Kelly, of Pottstown. Mrs. O'Brien died in June, 1889, aged 35 years. In religion Mr. O'Brien is a Roman Catholic and is chancellor of the Catholic Benevolent League of Pottstown.

He served two years as president of the Irish Catholic Benevolent Union, and for a like period presided over the Emerald Catholic Beneficial association of this city.

NOAH S. BORNEMAN, D. D. S., a popular practicing dentist of Norristown is the oldest son of Dr. Joseph H. and Esther (Stauffer) Borneman, and was born January 7, 1857, at Boyertown, Berks county, Pennsylvania. The Borneman's trace their transatlantic origin to Switzerland, where Daniel Borneman, the founder of the American branch of the family and great-great-grandfather of Noah Borneman, was born in 1699. He was reared and educated in his native land, but in 1721 he emigrated to America and settled on a farm in what was then Hanover township, Philadelphia county. He died in 1768 and was buried in the family graveyard on the old homestead.

Daniel Borneman left several children, one of whom was Christian, the great-grandfather of the subject of this sketch. Christian died in 1809 and left surviving him, among others, a son John (grandfather).

John Borneman was a weaver by trade and settled in Limerick township, Montgomery county, where Joseph H. Borneman, the father of Noah, was born in 1832. Joseph H. was a watchmaker by trade but subsequently he entered the Philadelphia college of Dentistry from which he was graduated in 1865 with the degree of Doctor of Dental Surgery. For a number of years, he was engaged in the practice of dentistry, but subsequently became proprietor of a pharmacy in Allentown, Pennsylvania, and afterwards of the Boyertown Pharmacy, which he is still successfully conducting. Politically he is a Republican and in religion, a Mennonite.

Joseph H. Borneman married Esther Stauffer, a daughter of John Stauffer of Clayton, Berks county. They have five children: Amanda, wife of Joseph Y. Moyer, residing on a farm at Clayton, Pennsylvania; Noah, the subject of this sketch; Sidney and Harris, both of whom are engaged in the practice of dentistry at Norristown; and Henry, an attorney-at-law practicing at Philadelphia.

Noah S. Borneman resided with his father in his native village until he was about twelve years of age when he removed to Allentown, Pennsylvania. Here he acquired a good common school education. In 1873 he went to Clayton, Pennsylvania, where he worked on a farm for his father, till 1882 when he removed to Boyertown. He then entered the Philadelphia Dental college, from which he was duly graduated with the degree of Doctor of Dental Surgery.

After graduation he located in Boyertown, and after several years of professional experience, he removed to Norristown.

Since that time he has been continuously engaged in the practice of dentistry and has been very successful in building up a large and valuable business in his chosen profession.

In 1883 Dr. Borneman was united in marriage to Emma Stauffer, a daughter of John C. Stauffer, of Bechtelsville, Pennsylvania. They have one child, a son named Walter. Like his father, Dr. Borneman is a Republican in politics and in religion a Mennonite.

MILTON G. ERB, one of the present commissioners of Montgomery county, is a son of Jonas and Elizabeth (Geist) Erb, and was born in Frederick township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, April 6, 1850. Jonas Erb is of German descent, and was born in this county April 16, 1816. The active years of his life were passed in farming, and he is now a resident of Pottstown. He is a Democrat in politics, and has been a member of the Evangelical Lutheran church for many years. He married Elizabeth Geist, who was a daughter of John Geist, of Berks county. Mr. and Mrs. Erb reared a family of seven children, five sons and two daughters.

Milton G. Erb was reared on his father's farm and attended the public schools until he was nineteen years of age. He then learned the trade of cabinet maker and the undertaking business, which he followed for about eight years. At the end of that time he went to Bechtelsville, Berks county, where he was engaged in keeping a hotel up to 1883. In that year he became a resident of Pottstown, and embarked at that place in the bottling business, which he has followed ever since. His bottling establishment is on High street, Pottstown, and he bottles large quantities of ale, beer, porter, and other drinks. In 1892 he engaged in the wholesale malt liquor business, which he has followed in connection with his bottling business up to the present time. Mr. Erb is a Democrat in politics. In 1893 he was elected as a county commissioner for a term of three years, and has served in that office since January 1, 1894.

He is a member of the Evangelical Lutheran church, and the Independent Order of Red Men. He is a Knight Templar Mason, being a member of Stichter Lodge No. 254, Free and Accepted Masons; Pottstown Chapter No. 271, Royal Arch Masons; and Nativity Commandery No. 71, Knights Templar.

On November 16, 1876, Milton G. Erb was united in marriage with Catharine Rhue, a daughter of Nathan Rhue, of Pleasantville, Berks county. Mr. and Mrs. Erb have six children living, two sons and four daughters: J. Lawrence, Mary E., Annie R., Howard N., Ella May, and M. Katie.

The oldest son, J. Lawrence Erb, is the youngest graduate in the history of the Pottstown High school. He was graduated there in the class of 1892, with first honors, and is now a student in the Metropolitan College of Music, in New York.

F. G. STRITZINGER, a fine representative of the sturdy German race, which has furnished Pennsylvania with so many of her leading citizens, is a son of Gotleib and Christena (Minchinger) Stritzinger, and was born November 4, 1832, at Oetiesheim, Wurtemburg, Germany. He was reared and educated in his native village, where he afterward learned the trade of baker at

Maulberoun, with a large bakery and flour mill combined. At the age of twenty-one, in 1854, he left the Fatherland, to find a new home in America, and first settled at Newport, Rhode Island. From there he came to Norristown, Pennsylvania, in 1854, and entered the employ of R. B. Stiles as a confectioner. After a few months he went to Williamsport, where he worked at his trade for a time, but returning to Norristown, in 1859, he embarked in the bakery business on his own account at Washington street and Strawberry alley. This enterprise he continued until 1870, when he sold out and engaged in the building business, putting up cottages and residences and selling them. In 1872 he purchased a lot at Main and Cherry streets, and erected a large bakery, which he conducted until 1889. He then purchased the Norristown Roller mill and began the manufacture of flour and ground feed, to which he has ever since devoted his attention with success.

On December 4, 1861, Mr. Stitzinger was married to Christiana Durrowackter, a native of the same village, and a daughter of ——— Durrowwackter. To them was born a family of eight children: Ludwig G., Frederick G., (1) deceased; Benjamin F., Elizabeth L., who married Dr. William Drecker; Frederick G. jr., a graduate of West Point Military academy, now serving in the United States army, Texas (2); William; Anna M., deceased; and George, also dead. Mrs. Stretzinger passed from earth on January 8th, 1895, aged fifty-four years.

In politics Mr. Stretzinger is a Republican and protectionist, though he has never taken any active part in political affairs. He is an active member of the Evangelical church, in which he has served as steward and class leader for a number of years, and has always taken a part in all church work, and is regarded as a good business man and citizen.

The Stretzingers are descended from an old German family at Oetiesheim, where Gotleib Stretzinger, (father), was born and passed most of his life. He served six years in the German army, and afterward engaged in the bakery business at his native place. In religion he was a Lutheran, and married Christena Minchinger, a daughter of ——— Minchinger. They had a family of eight children, five of whom died in early childhood. Those who reached maturity were: F. G., the subject of this sketch; Louisa, widow of Ernst Windis, of Norristown; and Elizabeth, who wedded N. Eiser, of Bridgeport. Gotleib Stretzinger died at Norristown, this county, in 1861, aged fifty-nine, and his wife passed away in 1884, after an active life extending over a period of three-quarters of a century.

MINARD L. CHRISTMAN, one of the Mechanical Engineers in the employ of the Phoenix Iron company, is a son of Charles and Mary T. (Miller) Christman, and was born at Norristown, Montgomery county, June 26, 1848. Charles Christman, was a native of Limerick township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, and learned the trade of carpenter which he followed during his lifetime. He died at Norristown, August 22, 1881, at sixty-seven years of age. He was a member and deacon of the Central Presbyterian church, in which he was a zealous and active worker. He married Mary T. Miller, who was a daughter of John T. Miller, of Limerick township, and passed away February 2, 1891, when in the seventy-ninth year of her age. Mr. and Mrs. Christman reared a family of

four children, three sons and one daughter.

Minard L. Christman was reared at Norristown, received his literary education in the public schools and Tremount seminary at that time conducted by Prof. John W. Loch, and then entered the Philadelphia Polytechnic college, from which latter institution he was graduated in the class of 1867. Returning home, he learned the trade of carpenter, and was engaged in contracting and building up to 1880. In that year he entered the service of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad company, and was assigned to the department of engineering as assistant and chief draughtsman to the master carpenter and superintendant of Buildings and Bridges at Pottstown, Pa., his duties being chiefly to design and superintend the construction of and repairs to buildings and bridges, and remained with the company until 1887, when he resigned to accept the position of draughtsman in the new Steel Department of the Phoenix Iron company, at Phoenixville, Chester county. The Phoenix Iron company is one of the largest of its kind in the United States, and Mr. Christman in connection with the general management of the great plant, has especial and personal supervision over the shop and mill building and tracks ; also improvements in the Steel Plant. In connection with his important and responsible work at the Phoenix iron works, he has designed many fine public buildings and handsome residences. He designed the DeKalb street and Noble street public school buildings of Norristown, and the Jeffersonville and Bridgeport Presbyterian churches, and made the drawings for remodeling the Lower Providence Presbyterian church. In 1881, Mr. Christman removed from Norristown to Pottstown, where he remained until 1891, when he returned to Norristown and resides in his present handsome residence on DeKalb street.

On December 1, 1870, Mr. Christman was united in marriage with Kate Briggs, a daughter of Alfred D. Briggs, who was engaged in the coal business at Norristown. To their union have been been born two children : Charles Alfred, who died at eleven years of age ; and Emma Gertrude.

In political affairs Mr. Christman has always been a supporter of the Republican party. He is recognized as a fine draughtsman and an excellent architect and engineer.

M. AUGUSTUS WITHERS, M.D., who practiced his profession at Pottstown for many years, and is now proprietor of a leading drug store of that borough, is the only son of Michael and Mary (Smith) Withers, and a native of Pequa township, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, where he was born November 6, 1829. The Withers are of German extraction and were among the first settlers of Lancaster county. George Withers, paternal grandfather of the subject of this sketch, was born and lived all his life in that county. He had one brother, Michael Withers, and they were both large land owners, men of independent means and prominently identified with the iron and flour milling industries of Lancaster. They owned and operated the Mount Eden (1808) and Conowingo (1809) iron furnaces, two of the first ever erected in Pennsylvania. They both took an active part in public affairs and held a number of offices. George Withers served as a soldier in the Revolutionary war, and died in 1820, at an advanced age. His wife, Anna (Kendrick) Withers, died in 1850, and their re-

mains sleep in Pequa township, Lancaster county. Their son, Michael Withers (father) was a miller up to 1840, when he engaged in the lumber and coal business. He followed that successfully until he was sixty-five years of age, when he retired from business. He was a member of the Lutheran church and died in 1871 in his eightieth year. In 1720 he married Mary Smith, a native of Lancaster county, and a daughter of Chester Chapin Smith. They had nine children: Mary, Louisa, Annie, all of whom died quite young; Clara, married Colonel Emlen Franklin, of Lancaster; Josephine, became the wife of John H. B. Wagner, an attorney-at-law in Lancaster; Louisa, wedded Dr. A. J. Carpenter, of the same city; Mary, deceased at the age of twelve; Annie, married Bernard Wolf, of Pittsburg; and Dr. M. Augustus.

M. Augustus Withers secured his preparatory education in the Lancaster academy, and subsequently entered Yale college, from which famous institution he was graduated in 1848. He began the study of medicine in 1849, with Dr. F. A. Muhlenberg, of Lancaster, and later entered the University of Pennsylvania, from which he was graduated with the degree of M. D. in 1852. In the same year Dr. Withers began practice at Lancaster, Pa., where he remained two years. He then removed to Millersville, where he practiced until 1859, when he came to Pottstown. Here he practiced his profession until 1862, when he entered the Federal army as assistant surgeon of the 76th Pennsylvania infantry. After one year he was promoted to be surgeon of the regiment, but in 1864 resigned the position and returned to Pottstown to resume his former practice in this city. In 1885 Dr. Withers retired from active practice. He had purchased a drug store in Pottstown soon after returning from the army, and this business he has continued to the present time.

On January 23, 1856, Dr. Withers was married to Mary Louise Musselman, daughter of Henry and Anna Musselman, of Strasburg, Lancaster county. They had one child, a daughter named Anna Mary, who married Horace Evans, cashier of the Pottstown National Bank, and who has two sons, Louis W. and George W. Evans, both of whom are pupils in the Hill school.

Dr. Withers is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, and Past Master of Strichler Lodge, No. 254, Free and Accepted Masons. He and Mrs. Withers are also members of the Episcopal church.

SOLOMON GILBERT, a prosperous business man of Norristown, Pa., is a son of John and Mary Gilbert, and was born in Pottsgrove township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, February 14, 1821. His paternal grandfather, Henry Gilbert, lived near Summertown, New Hanover township, Montgomery county, where he followed agricultural pursuits. The father of Solomon Gilbert was born in New Hanover township where he was engaged in various industrial pursuits.

In politics he was a Democrat and served in the War of 1812. He was a consistent member of the Lutheran church, and became a resident of Pottsgrove township, where he remained until his death. He was married and reared a family of eight children: Anna Filman, Sarah Engle Broner, Kate Thomas, Rachael Sabold, Charlotte Steltz, William, Samuel and Solomon.

Solomon Gilbert was born and reared in

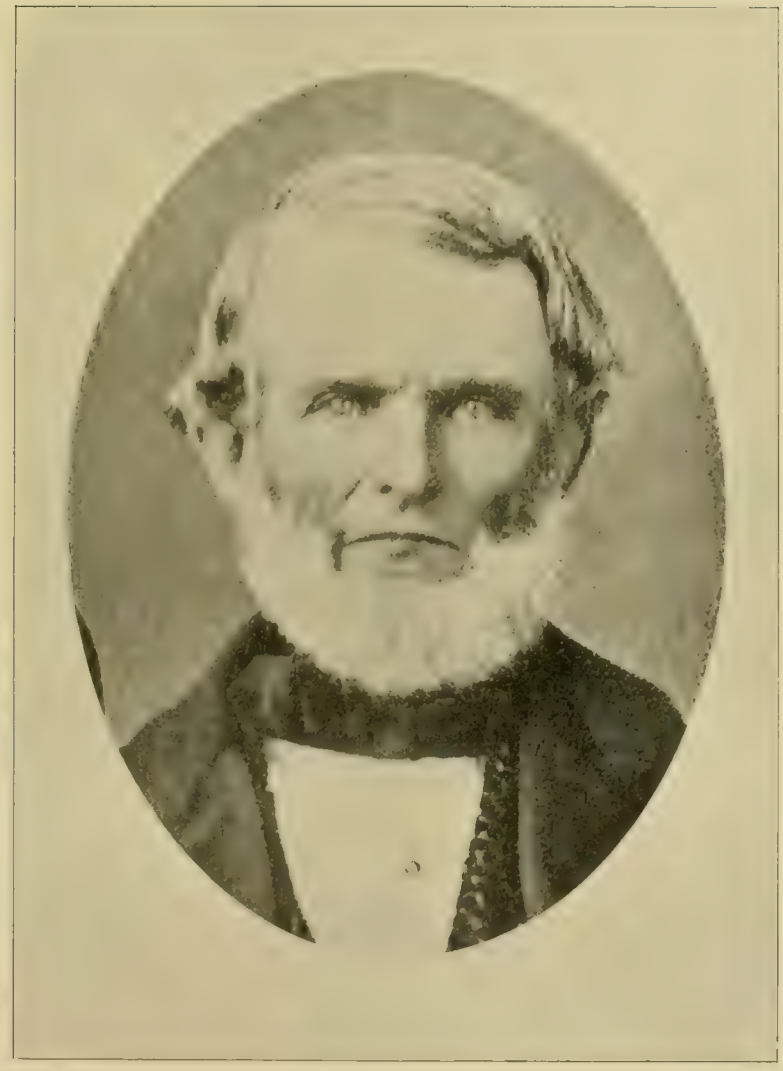
Pottsgrove township, where he lived until the age of seventeen, when he removed to Norristown; there he became interested in the marble business, first as an employee for David H. Decker, and afterwards as the partner of a man named Potts, under the firm name of Potts & Gilbert, locating at Cedar Grove, Whitemarsh township. He there continued in the marble business for a term of five years and furnished all kinds of marble for building purposes. With Mr. Potts he owned a farm of one hundred acres upon which were marble quarries, a saw mill, sand works, fire-clay beds and iron ore mines. At the end of five years that the firm was engaged, Solomon Gilbert sold his interest to his partner; Mr. Gilbert remained in Norristown where he continued in the marble business for fifteen years. In 1884 he built a handsome boarding stable ninety-seven feet long and fifty feet wide, at 40 east Penn street. For ten years he was a director of the Montgomery National bank.

He was also a director of the Norristown Gas company, the Music Hall association and the Electric Light and Power company. In political sentiment Mr. Gilbert is a Republican, and in religion, is a member of the Lutheran church. During the Civil war he served in an Emergency company.

In 1849 he was united in marriage with Annie Lukens, a daughter of Benjamin Lukens, and to this union have been born five children: Clara; Mary, who married Prof. Jerry March, a music teacher, of Norristown; Alice, who married William F. Solly, who is one of the active members of the Montgomery county bar and was chairman of the Republican county committee during the campaign of General Hastings; Annie, married Dr. Charles E. Weber, a practicing physician in Norristown; and Elizabeth is at home.

THOMAS DAVIS, M. D., an active and successful physician of Montgomery county for over half a century, was a son of Dr. Roger Davis, and was born in Chester county, Pa., March 6, 1806. The Davis family came from Wales, and are among the oldest and most worthy families of Chester and Montgomery counties. Their early home was in Chester county, from which members of the family came into Montgomery county and other counties of southeastern Pennsylvania. The father of Dr. Thomas Davis was a well known physician in his day.

By the death of his parents Dr. Thomas Davis was left an orphan when but a mere child. He was taken and reared by his elder brother Dr. Jones Davis. He read medicine with Professor Horner of Philadelphia (of the University of Pennsylvania). When he had completed the required course of office reading and study, he entered the medical department of the University of Pennsylvania, from which institution he was graduated with honors in 1824. After graduation he came to Lower Providence township where he remained for several years. He then removed to Trappe, and after practicing there for seven years went to Whitemarsh township, and lived there four years. In 1850 he returned to Jeffersonville, where he continued to practice two and a half years. In the latter named year (1852) he came to Evansburg, where he had a wide field of practice until his retirement from active professional life. Seven years later his final summons came and he passed away January 22, 1891, at the advanced age of eighty-two years. His remains were interred in the Upper Dublin cemetery, and many mourned the loss of a true friend, and a skillful physician. His life was one of activity and usefulness and he did honor



Thomas Davis

by his ability and skill to the profession of which he was an honored member.

On December 5, 1839, Dr. Thomas Davis was united in marriage with Sarah L. Rieff, who was a daughter of Joseph and Ann L. Rief, of Ambler, Pennsylvania. She died November 2, 1869. Their union was blessed with one child, Mary Ann, who is now the only surviving member of her branch of the old Davis family. Mary Ann Davis, who has never married, is a woman of good business ability, and has added to the handsome estate left her by her mother through several profitable investments. She resides in a comfortable and well provided home at Evansburg, and is a member of the Evangelical Lutheran church at the Trappe.

GEORGE W. KEYS, the efficient County Recorder of Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, is a son of James and Mary A. (Carn) Keys, and was born August 15, 1843, on the Ridge turnpike in the village of Harmanville, Plymouth township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania.

Major Keys, grandfather, was a native of Londonderry, Ireland, whence he emigrated to the United States. James Keys, father, was born near Londonderry in the year 1815. He remained in his native land until eighteen years of age, when because of the crowded economic conditions existing in his own country, he broke away from the associations of his youth and embarked for the new world. He located in Plymouth township and became a foreman in Potts & Dagers' marble quarries. He espoused the cause of the old line Whig party upon coming to this country and steadfastly adhered to that party until supplanted by the Republican party, when he became an ardent Republican. He married Mary A. Carn and they were the parents of six children: Sarah, wife of Plummer Gourley; George W., subject; Mary, wife of E. Channing Wolfe, a resident of Plymouth township; Emma, wife of Samuel Groff, of Norristown; Maggie, wife of J. Heckley Hand, of Philadelphia; Harry A., deceased. Of the children, the girls were all teachers prior to their marriage.

George W. Keys received his scholastic training in the public schools of Plymouth township and Tremont seminary at Norristown, under the direction of Prof. John W. Loch. At the age of seventeen years he took a clerkship in the store of David H. Yerkes of Harmanville, Pa.

He followed clerking with William Davis, jr., of West Conshohocken, until he entered the service of his country as a soldier in the late Civil war. On August 15, 1862, he enlisted in Company A, 138th regiment, Pennsylvania volunteer infantry, but on account of physical disability, was rejected by the government examining physician at Harrisburg. He then entered a free military school at Philadelphia and after an attendance there for a short time, appeared before an examining board at Washington, D. C. He passed the requirements of that board and received a commission as second lieutenant, Class A, and was put in charge of Company A, of the 41st regiment, U. S. colored troops at Camp William Penn, and early in 1864, was attached to the Army of the James. Among the more important conflicts and affair in which his regiment figured were the following: Charles City Cross Roads, Chapin's Farm, &c.; his division, under General E. O. C. Ord, joined the Army of the Potomac under Grant; was in the assault upon Petersburg and was present at the surrender of Lee at Appo-

mattox. After the conflict of the Civil war was ended, the division to which Mr. Keys' regiment belonged was sent to Texas under Gen. P. H. Sheridan; and at Edinburg, Texas, lieutenant Keys was promoted to first lieutenant and adjutant of his regiment. They remained in that country doing duty from the island of Brazos to Ringgold Barracks until December, 1865, when the regiment was ordered home and was mustered out at Camp Cadwalader, Philadelphia. After returning from the service, he took a position as clerk and superintendent for Potts and Gilbert, marble merchants at Cedar Grove, in Whitemarsh township, this county. That position he filled for three years when he formed a partnership with Nathaniel W. Yerkes and engaged in farming, merchandising and the mining, extensively, of iron ore. He continued this line of business for a period of three years when he sold out again and assumed the roll of superintendent of a marble quarry for Mr. E. Channing Potts, which position he held up to 1881, when he embarked in the mining of fire clay, kaolin and foundry gravel in connection with a general contracting business which he carries on to the present time. He has been a successful business man and has accumulated a handsome property. He is a Republican in politics and has always manifested a strong interest in the success of his party. In 1890 he was the candidate of his party for the office of recorder and was defeated by only two votes. In 1893 he was renominated for the same office and elected by the handsame majority of six hundred and seventy-five votes. Fraternally, Mr. Keys is a member of George Smith Post, No. 79, G. A. R.

The marriage of Mr. Keys and Emma, a daughter of Jesse Kirk, of Whitemarsh township, this county, was on August 15, 1872, and resulted in the birth of three sons: James, a student in the civil engineering department of Lehigh University, a member of the class 1896; Jesse, a skilled bricklayer, graduated from Williamson Manual Training school in the class of 1894; and Harry, a student of mechanical arts in the Drexel Institute, Philadelphia. The maternal grandfather of Mr. Keys was Joseph Carn, who was of French extraction and his maternal grandmother was of German lineage.

ALBERT G. SAYLOR, a retired business man of Pottstown, is the eldest son of Henry and Mary A. (Groves) Saylor, and was born November 16, 1826, on the old Saylor homestead in Limerick township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania. This farm was purchased by the paternal grandfather of the subject of this sketch, Henry Saylor, sr., 1708, and has remained in possession of the family ever since. It is now owned by Azariah Saylor, a brother of Albert G. Saylor. Henry Saylor (grandfather) had two children, a son named for himself and a daughter, Susanna. The son, Henry Saylor (father) was born July 20, 1800, and resided all his life on the home farm near Limerick Square. He engaged for a time in huckstering and farming, but later abandoned the former and gave his entire attention to agricultural pursuits. He was a Democrat in politics and served at one time as assessor of the township. In religion he was a member of the Lutheran church, and died on April 21, 1877, aged seventy-six years, nine months and one day. In 1821 he married Mary A. Groves, a native of Montgomery county and a daughter of John Groves. By this marriage he had a family of five children: Albert G.; Azariah; Dr.

S. B. Lutsharo

Henry A. (see sketch of A. R. Saylor, on another page of this book); Susanna and Ada Eliza. Mrs. Mary A. Saylor died in 1880, at the advanced age of eighty years, four months and eighteen days.

Albert G. Saylor attended the pay schools of his township and remained on the farm until seventeen years of age. He then entered the general store of Henry McKenty, at Douglasville, Berks county, as a clerk and salesman, and after a short time came to Pottstown, Montgomery county, as a clerk in the general mercantile establishment of Daniel H. Beecher. For three years he remained with Mr. Beecher and then became clerk for Frederick A. Bickel, another merchant of Pottstown. With Mr. Bickel he remained until the latter sold out to Amstead Wells, when he entered Mr. Wells' employ and continued in the position of clerk for three years longer. In 1851 Mr. Saylor embarked in the notion and trimming business on his own account, at Pottstown, and in 1860 added dry goods and millinery business successfully until 1884, when he sold out to Landis & Snell. Thus for more than the third of a century, Mr. Saylor was an active and successful merchant of Pottstown, devoting all his time to business and never aspiring to any sort of official distinction. In 1884 he retired from business, and has since been enjoying the well earned repose that fittingly crowns a long and active career of well directed effort.

In December, 1848, Mr. Saylor married Mary Ann Overholtzer, a daughter of Henry and Mary Overholtzer, of Lancaster county, this State. To them were born two children, the eldest of whom, Hon. H. D. Saylor, is now State senator from Montgomery county. Their other child was a daughter, Mary Ann, who was an efficient church and Sunday school worker for a number of years and died April 11, 1883, at the age of twenty-one years, six months. Mrs. Mary A. Saylor died in 1869, aged forty-four years, twenty six days; and on November 6, 1888, Mr. Saylor was again married, wedding for his second wife, Mary Ann Sassaman, a daughter ot Jacob and Salome (Stauffer) Sassaman, of Berks county, Pa.

For forty-six years Mr. Saylor has been a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, having passed through all the chairs of his lodge and also all of the chairs of the old encampment. In 1840 he was confirmed a member of the Lutheran church at St. Augustine's Lutheran church, Trappe, this county, on the one hundredth anniversary of that church. That was the first Lutheran church ever organized in Montgomery county and was founded in 1740. Mr. Saylor has been a member of the church council and trustee of his church for many years, and also represented his church on the Pottstown cemetery board, of which he served as secretary since 1873. For nearly a quarter of a century he served as superintendent of the Sunday school connected with his church, and was always active in support of the religious and charitable movements originated and carried forward by his denomination.

SAMUEL B. LATSHAW, an enterprising and successful business man, of Royersford, is a native of Spring City, Chester county, Pennsylvania, where he was born January 17, 1852. He is the eldest son of Daniel and Angeline (Bean) Latshaw. The Latshaws are one of the early settled families of Chester county, where Jacob Latshaw, paternal grandfather of the

subject of this sketch, was born and reared. He was an extensive farmer and large land owner, and a prominent minister of the Mennonite church, to which he gave his services for many years without a thought of compensation. He married Mary Hiestand and reared a family of seven children, three sons and four daughters: John, still living in Chester county; David, deceased; Daniel, also dead; Betsey, who married Abraham Bechtel, and is now deceased; Catharine, wedded William Buckwalter, and is also dead; Mary became the wife of Joel Ebert, and is now deceased, and Annie, who married Rudolph Stauffer and now resides in East Pikeland, Chester county. Daniel Latshaw (father) was born in Chester county, this State, in 1820, and after attaining manhood, engaged in agricultural pursuits, which he followed all his life in Chester and Montgomery counties. He owned large tracts of land in the vicinity of Royersford, Montgomery county. Where the town now stands he had four fine farms, including almost the entire site of the borough, and was the founder of Royersford. He laid out and sold lots, opened streets, and industriously labored to secure the location here of industrial enterprises calculated to build up the place and attract settlers. He was instrumental in getting the first stove foundry to locate here, and donated lots for school and church purposes. He was a man of great public spirit and unbounded energy, and was ever ready to do all in his power for the interest of the town and its people. His death occured Oct. 31, 1886, in his sixty-seventh year, and his remains lie entombed in the Fernwood cemetery at Royersford. In 1850 he married Angeline Bean, a daughter of Samuel Bean, and by that union had a family of nine children, all sons: Samuel B., whose name heads this sketch; Milton, a hardware merchant, of Spring City; Jesse Newton, deceased; Jacob, also dead; Daniel, likewise deceased; B. Irvin, residing at Royersford; John H., William L. and Ira D.

Samuel B. Latshaw, the eldest son, obtained his elementary education in the public schools of Limerick township, this county, and subsequently entered the academy at Phoenixville. After completing his academic studies he clerked in a store at Royersford for four years, and then took a course of training in Bryant & Stratton's Business College, Philadelphia, from which institution he was graduated in 1871. Soon after graduation he accepted a position as clerk in the Reading ticket and freight office at Royersford, and one year later entered the employ of the American Wood Paper company, of Spring City, as chief book-keeper and clerk. Mr. Latshaw remained with the paper company for fifteen years, but in 1887 resigned his position and embarked in the insurance and real estate business at Royersford. His experience and knowledge of values, combined with his sound judgment and indomitable energy, have commended him to a wide circle of customers, and he has built up one of the most important enterprises of its kind in the county. Owning large real estate himself, he is prepared to meet the wants of all classes, whether for a home or for investments. He represents the leading insurance companies of the United States in fire, life and accident insurance, and also takes entire charge of real estate, securing desirable tenants, effecting repairs of property, and in every way consulting the best interests of the owners he represents.

In 1887 Mr. Latshaw erected a large and beautiful four story brick building, the first floors of which are occupied by stores, the

second contains commodious rooms for the Young Men's Christian association and Women's Christian Temperance Union, while the third is a large public hall, containing a stage and scenery, and sufficient room to seat more than four hundred people. The fourth story is fitted up for lodge rooms. This building reflects great credit on its founder and is an architectural ornament to the borough. In addition to his real estate business, Mr. Latshaw is a director of the National Bank of Royersford, Fernwood Cemetery Co., Royersford Building and Loan Association and American Tire and Wheel Co. He is also Treasurer of the Home Water Co. and Royersford Machine Co. and interested as a stockholder in many other corporations.

On October 4, 1876, Mr. Latshaw was married to Alice Rogers, daughter of Jones Rogers, of Royersford. To them was born one child, a son named Clarence R., now in his 18th year. Mr. and Mrs. Latshaw have also adopted Ella M. R. Latshaw. Mr. Latshaw is a member and treasurer of the Board of Trustees of the Methodist Episcopal church, and librarian of the Methodist Sunday school. He is also a member of Royersford Lodge, No. 585, Free and Accepted Masons, and vice president of the Young Men's Christian Association, of Royersford. Politically he is a strict Prohibitionist. As a business man and citizen he is valuable, and his efforts to build up the borough have been very successful.

GEORGE H. CRABTREE, a promising young physician and surgeon of Royersford, was graduated from the Medico-Chirurgical College of Philadelphia in the spring of 1893. He was then elected to serve a term as resident physician of the Samaritan hospital of Philadelphia, and early in 1894 located at Royersford, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, for the general practice of his profession. Although a young man, he soon built up a good practice.

Dr. Crabtree is a native of Maine, having been born at Topsfield, that State, February 4, 1866. His parents are Lorenzo R. and Mary (Small) Crabtree, the former of Scotch and the latter of English extraction. The father, who still resides on the old homestead in Maine, is a farmer by occupation, and the boyhood of Dr. Crabtree was spent on the farm and in attendance at the public schools of his neighborhood. Later he entered the Lee Normal academy, at Lee, Maine, from which he was graduated in 1885 with highest honors. He then engaged in the mercantile business for two years in the city of Boston, Massachusetts, and while there took an extended course of study in science and languages in a private night school of that city. After completing this course, Dr. Crabtree began the study of medicine under Dr. George F. Keene, the eminent physician of Howard, Rhode Island. He subsequently matriculated at the Medico-Chirurgical College of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, from which he was duly graduated as already stated.

He is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and of the Knights of the Golden Eagle. Possessing many of the attributes of the ideal physician, and earnestly devoted to his profession, his career promises to be alike useful and honorable. He is a careful reader of the best literature of his school in medicine, and has been successful in his practice. He is unmarried. He has recently been elected a member of the surgical staff of the Phœnixville hospital, of Phœnixville, Pa.

WILLIAM RITTENHOUSE, a descendant of the old and well known Rittenhouse family, of Norriton township, is a son of William, Sr. and Susanna (Highley) Rittenhouse, and was born in Norriton township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, May 24, 1843. The Rittenhouse family is of German descent and is related to the Rittenhouse family of which David Rittenhouse, the celebrated astronomer, was a member. William Rittenhouse, Sr., was a grandson of Henry Rittenhouse, who married Sophia Ernhart, and was an early resident of Norriton township, where he followed farming and owned the farm that has come down through four generations of his descendants. His children were: Christopher, William, Wilhelmina, David, Joseph and Henry. David Rittenhouse married Rachel Zimmerman, and the children born to them were: Charlotte, Susan, William, Sr., Christopher, Sophia, Henry and David.

William Rittenhouse, Sr., was born on the home farm, August 3, 1803. He was reared to habits of industry and economy, and received the limited education of his day. When he came to do for himself he chose farming for a life occupation. He tilled the home farm for sixteen years and then purchased the shares of the other heirs. He was a successful farmer and died December 22, 1891, aged eighty-nine years. He married, in 1831, Susanna Highley, who was a daughter of John Highley, of Lower Providence township, and died January 5, 1848. To their union were born seven children: George W., Rachel, Mary, Charlotte, David, William (subject) and Susan. Of these children, Charlotte, David and Susan are deceased.

William Rittenhouse grew to manhood on the farm, received his education in the common schools and Loch's select school, of Norristown, and then turned his attention to farming which he has followed ever since. He resided on the old homestead until 1893, when he removed to his present comfortable home at White Hall, adjoining the homestead. In the period of thirty years, during which he has done for himself, he has never left the farm except for two years that he spent in acquiring the trade of blacksmith, which he has never followed as a regular business.

On March 19, 1874, Mr. Rittenhouse married Rebecca Shannon, a daughter of Joseph Shannon, of Norriton township. Their union has been blessed with one child, a daughter, named Charlotte.

In politics Mr. Rittenhouse is a Republican. He is a member of Curtis Lodge, No. 239, Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He was one of the incorporators, and is a present stock holder, of the Spring Garden market company of Philadelphia. When the company was organized he was made a director, and has served in that position by re-election ever since. Mr. Rittenhouse has been successful in business-life through his own efforts, and has acquired a competency and a comfortable home.

EPHRAIM B. BICKEL, a retired merchant of Norristown, is the son of Daniel and Elizabeth Bickel, and was born near Gilbertsville, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, January 30, 1829. The Bickel family of this county traces its ancestry back to the grandfather of Ephraim B. Bickel, who came from Germany to Pennsylvania, where he located upon a farm near Falkner's Swamp, Montgomery county. He was an adherent to the Demo-

cratic party and was a member of the Lutheran church.

He married, and to their union were born five children: Henry, Jacob, Lewis, Daniel and Mrs. Isaac Fether.

Daniel Bickle (father) was born in Montgomery county and was educated in the common schools of his native district. He turned his early aitention to farming, which occupation he followed during life. He owned a fine farm of one hundred acres near Gilbertville where he took great interest in agriculture. In politics he was a Democrat and was a faithful attendant of the Lutheran church. He married Elizabeth Brower who died at the age of sixty-two years. They had five sons and three daughters: Maria, deceased, who was the wife of Jacob Bucher; Elizabeth, who married Samuel Bower; Mary, deceased; Jacob, deceased; Ephraim; Isaac, deceased; William, deceased, and Daniel, deceased. Father Daniel died at the age of forty-three years.

Ephraim B. Bickel first attended the common schools near Boyertown, Berks county, where the family removed after the death of his father. Afterwards he became a student at the Academy at New Stoneville, Berks county, which was conducted by Nathaniel Bertolet. Leaving school he was engaged as clerk, first at Boyertown then at Norristown, and as such, served for some years. In 1850 he engaged in the mercantile business for himself and located first on Main street in Norristown and afterwards at No. 419 west Marshall street, where he continued in the business until he sold out to his son Harry, who still conducts the business at that place.

Mr. Bickel is a Democrat and takes an active interest in the success of his party. He is also a member of the Knights of Pythias, the Star Loan association and the West Norristown Building and Loan association. He adheres to the Lutheran church of which he is a member. On January 27, 1859, he was united in marriage with Louisa Hartranft, a daughter of David Hartranft, who was engaged in the milling business near Falkner's Swamp. This union has been blessed with two children: Harry N., who succeeded his father in the mercantile business and in 1894, induced by his friends, became a candidate for assembly but was defeated with the rest of the Democratic ticket; and Emma, who married Dr. Elmer E. Johnston, a practicing physician of Pottstown, this county.

CAPTAIN ROBERT McCOY, proprietor of extensive lime works at Swedeland, Montgomery county, is a son of Alick and Catharine (Rogers) McCoy, and was born in February, 1831, in county Antrim, Ireland. His paternal grandfather, John McCoy, passed the early part of his life in the highlands of Scotland, emigrating when a young man to Ireland, where he married Sallie MacMullin. He was a farmer and died in county Antrim, Ireland, at the age of sixty-seven. His wife lived to be seventy-nine. Their son, Alick McCoy (father) was reared in the same county, obtaining an ordinary common school education, and became a farmer and stockman. He shipped live stock to all parts of Scotland and accumulated considerable property. He was a Protestant in religion and became popular and influential in his community. About 1830 he married Catharine Rogers, a native of county Entram and of Scotch-Irish parentage. They had a family of four children, of whom the subject of this sketch was

the eldest and is the only son now living. The others were John and Alick, both deceased, and Margaret, who became the wife of John McCann, of Bridgeport, Pennsylvania.

Robert McCoy remained on the Emerald Isle until he had reached his sixteenth year, when he emigrated to America and soon afterward settled in Chester county, Penna. He at first worked on a farm for a short time and then entered the employ of John Kennedy, at Port Kennedy, this county, with whom he remained for two years. After that he began boating on the river for Mr. Kennedy, carrying lime to Maryland, Virginia and other places, and was thus employed for two years more. At the end of that time Mr. Kennedy assisted him starting the boating business on his own account, and Mr. McCoy remained on the water for a period of fifteen years, transporting all kinds of heavy merchandise. Later he began boating lime for Rambo & Co., and afterward purchased the steam tug General Meade, where he remained for four years. He then purchased the steam tug Cynthia, plying on the Delaware river, until 1876, and he then sold the tug Cynthia. While acting as captain of the schooners Liza Ann and Daniel Fraley, he carried supplies to the seat of war, during the great rebellion, and was thus exposed to many dangers and hardships. In 1880 he embarked in the grocery and liquor business at Bridgeport, Montgomery county. After two years he sold the business to Robert Griffith and purchased a large limestone quarry at Swedeland, where he erected lime-kilns and other necessary buildings and began the manufacture of lime on a large scale. This enterprise he has ever since successfully conducted, and has succeeded in building up a large and valuable trade, extending to all parts of eastern Pennsylvania and sections of adjoining States.

Politically, Mr. McCoy is a staunch Republican, and has served two terms in the town council of Bridgeport. He is an Episcopalian in religion, and always takes an active part in supporting the various interests of his church, and is an earnest advocate of every measure calculated to advance the welfare of the community in which he resides. He is a member of the Protestant association, No. 59, Philadelphia, Pa., and for many years he was connected with Montgomery Lodge, No. 59, Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

In July, 1854, Captain McCoy was united in marriage with Catharine McMullen, a native of Ireland and a daughter of John McMullen. To them was born a family of ten children: Catharine, married Alexander Niel; John; Mary, became the wife of Richard Walker; Ellen, wedded William Mayers; Julia, wife of J. Eastborn; Robert; Jane, who married Frederick Whitman; Sarah and Alick. Mrs. Catherine McCoy died on November 8, 1887, aged fifty-six. Mr. McCoy is purely a self-made man, having worked his way up, without adventitious aid of any kind, until he occupies an excellent position among the citizens of his adopted county of Montgomery.

HORACE F. REIFSNYDER, resident at Norristown since 1884, is a son of John H. and Mary K. Reifsnyder, and a native of Chester county, this State, where he was born January 8th, 1852. He was reared and educated in his native county, and after leaving school occupied various clerical positions for the space of four years, after which he was appointed a rail-

J. K. Mustad M.D.

road agent and served continuously in that position and finally settled at Norristown in 1884, and has resided here ever since, engaged in the business as railroad agent.

Politically Mr. Reifsnyder has always been a stanch Republican. He has served for some time as school director for the Seventh ward, in which he resides, and is a firm friend of popular education. He is a member and an official of the Second Baptist church of Norristown, and is always active in support of the various religious and charitable interests of his denomination.

On May 6th, 1874, Mr. Reifsnyder was united in marriage with Allie Alexander, a daughter of George Alexander, of Chester county. To Mr. and Mrs. Reifsnyder have been born five children, three sons and two daughters: Carolyn, George, Edgar, Herbert, and Emma.

The Reifsnyders are of German extraction, but have resided in Pennsylvania since early times. John Reifsnyder, paternal grandfather of the subject of this sketch, was a country merchant of Chester county, where he resided all his life. His store was across the river from Pottstown, and he was well and favorably known to most of the older people of Montgomery county. He married Anna Harley, by whom he had a family of four children, one of his sons being John H. Reifsnyder, who was born in Chester county in 1819, and died there in 1893, at the advanced age of seventy-four years. After obtaining a good education, he engaged for a time in teaching and then embarked in mercantile pursuits. For several years he followed merchandising very successfully and then retired. He was a staunch Republican in politics, and also adhered to the religious faith of his ancestors, being for many years a member of the Lutheran church. In 1848 he married Mary Klink, a daughter of Frederick Klink. To them was born a family of four children, of whom three still survive: Irwin, Horace F., Catharine, (deceased); and Charles.

J. R. UMSTAD, M. D., a general practitioner of medicine and a specialist on diseases of the eye, is a son Samuel and Lydia (Rieff) Umstad, and was born near Shannonville, Lower Providence township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, July 6, 1856. The Umstads are of Holland-Dutch descent, and have been resident of the county for several generations. Samuel Umstad was born and reared in Lower Providence township, where his life was passed as a farmer. He was born July 7, 1826, and died July 12, 1857, when in the early years of matured manhood. He was a Republican politically and a consistent member of the Dunkard or Reformed German Baptist church, in whose faith he had been reared and taught. He wedded Lydia Rieff, whose father was George Rieff, of Norristown, Pa. To their union was born four children: Henry Alpha and Mary, who are deceased; and Dr. J. R. and Catharine, wife of Charles Jarrett, who are living.

At twelve years of age Dr. J. R. Umstad was taken from Lower Providence township to Norristown, where he grew to manhood. He received his education in the public schools of Norristown, and commenced the study of medicine with his uncle, Dr. H. U. Umstad, of Black Rock, Montgomery county, Pa. After two years spent in office reading, he attended lectures at Jefferson Medical college from which he was graduated in the "Centennial Class" (1876). In a short time after graduation he opened an office for the practice

of his profession at Kulpsville, where he remained for three years. He then purchased Dr. Detwiler's office at Evansburg, and remained there ten years. At the end of that time in the spring of 1890, Dr. Umstad removed to Norristown, where he has been engaged in active practice up to the present time. While having a large practice as a general practitioner, he makes a specialty of the diseases of the eye, for which he prepared himself by taking a special post-graduate course on eye diseases in connection with other advanced clinical work at Philadelphia Polyclinic Hospital, in 1889.

In politics Mr. Umstad has always been a Republican, and at the present time is a physician to the coroner, a position he has filled for over two years. He is also physician to the Norristown Charity Hospital.

He is a member of the First Presbyterian church of Norristown; Economy Lodge No. 397, Independent Order of Odd Fellows; Shannonville Castle No. 211, Knights of the Golden Eagle; and Norris City Lodge No. 11, Shield of Honor. He is practical, skillful and successful as a physician. Dr. Umstad is a close student in the line of his profession. He is one of the special contributors to the *Codex Medicus* of Philadelphia, which is a high standard medical journal, containing select contributions from experienced physicians, concerning successful treatment of complicated and difficult cases arising in practice. Dr. Umstad is president of the Montgomery County Medical Society, and has been for some time a member of the Pennsylvania State Medical society.

On November 16, 1880, Dr. J. R. Umstad was united in marriage with Emma J. Swartley, a daughter of Henry D. Swartley, of Skippackville. To Dr. and Mrs. Umstad have been born three children: Harry Guy, who died in infancy; W. LeRoy, born July 15, 1883; and Kathrine Helen, born December 10, 1894.

HON. AARON S. SWARTZ, President Judge of the Thirty-eighth Judicial district of Pennsylvania, is a native of Towamencin township, Montgomery county, where he was born February 24, 1849. He is a son of Jacob H. and Susanna (Snyder) Swartz. During his boyhood, Judge Swartz remained on the farm until ten years of age when his father removed to Kulpsville, this county. Here the subject of this sketch received his primary education in private schools. Later he concluded his academic studies at Freeland seminary (now Ursinus college), after which he taught for several years. In September, 1867, he entered Lafayette college at Easton, Pennsylvania, from which institution he was graduated in the year 1871 with the first honors of his class. Immediately subsequent to his graduation he was elected principal of the public schools at Phoenixville, this State, and served for a term of one year. In the autumn of 1872, he came to Norristown, and began the study of law in the office of Gilbert Rodman Fox, Esq. While yet engaged in his legal studies he was appointed deputy clerk of the United States District Court at Philadelphia, and removed to that city. Having completed his preparation for the bar he was admitted to practice in May, 1875, but retained his position of deputy clerk until 1877. In the year last mentioned he was put forward as the Republican nominee for district attorney of Montgomery county, but was defeated by a small ma-

Aaron S. Swartz

jority, though he ran largely ahead of his ticket. In 1881 Mr. Swartz was nominated for associate judge of this county against Hon. H. P. Ross, then the incumbent of that office, but was again defeated. In the same year he was appointed solicitor for the county commissioners and continued to act in that capacity until 1887. In the latter year a bill was passed by the legislature giving Montgomery county an additional law judge, and Mr. Swartz was appointed by Governor Beaver to fill the new position, ascending the bench as the associate of Judge Boyer in 1887. In August, 1887, Judge Boyer died and Judge Swartz was commissioned President judge, having received three judicial commissions in one year—as Law judge, President judge, and Judge by election. In 1887 he was nominated and elected to the position of President judge of the Thirty-eighth Judicial district of Pennsylvania for a full term of ten years, beginning January 1, 1888, and is now discharging the duties of his high office in a manner that has caused him to be honored and respected.

In his religious affiliation Judge Swartz is a Presbyterian and has served as a ruling elder in the First Presbyterian church of Norristown for a number of years. He has also served continuously as superintendent of the Sunday-school for a period of over six years. He is a liberal minded man of broad views, charitable in disposition, and kind and generous in his intercourse with others.

On April 20, 1876, Judge Swartz was united in marriage to A. Louisa Keller, of Bucks county, Pennsylvania. The result of this union has been five children: Gertrude, Edna, Aaron S. jr., Anna and Helen, the last named now deceased.

The family from which Judge Swartz was descended is of German extraction but its members have been native of Pennsylvania ever since the Collonial period. Christian Swartz, paternal great grandfather of Judge Swartz, was a life-long resident of Montgomery county and a well known preacher of the religious sect known as Mennonites. His son, Emanuel Swartz (grandfather) was also a native of this county, a sturdy and well to do farmer, and in political faith a Jacksonian Democrat. He adhered to the religion of his father, was married to Ann Hendricks and had a family of two sons and four daughters, one of whom was Jacob H. Swartz, father of Aaron S. Jacob Swartz was born at the old homestead in Towamencin township in the year 1819, and after attaining to the years of manhood learned the carpenter trade, at which he worked for a number of years. He then purchased a farm and engaged in agricultural pursuits and stock raising. He also kept a hotel for a number of years, was widely known throughout the county, but retired from active business about 1886. He enjoyed the evening of his life in quiet and comfort at Lansdale, Pa., and died in February, 1895. In 1844 he espoused in marriage Susanna Schneider, a daughter of Isaac Schneider of this county, and by that union had a family of five children: Mary, Ellen, Charles, Horace and Aaron S., the subject of this sketch.

Anterior to his ascending the bench Judge Schwartz acquired and maintained an extremely large general law practice and was noted for his vigor and success as an advocate. In his judicial capacity his success has been equally marked. He is a careful student of the law, judicious in his administration and possesses the entire confidence of the legal fraternity both by reason of his fairness and his judicial erudition.

JOSEPH S. RAMBO, one of the energetic and successful business men and manufacturers of Norristown, is the second son of Lewis and Margaret A. (Miller) Rambo, and was born April 12, 1856, at Halford, near Morgan's Corner, (now Moore's), Delaware county, Pennsylvania. The family is of Swedish descent, but have been native Pennsylvanians for several generations, its first American ancestor having emigrated to the new world and settled in this commonwealth at an early day. Lewis Rambo (father) was a native of this county, where he was born January 8, 1828, and grew to manhood. In early life he learned the trade of shoemaker, at which he worked for a short time, but did not make it a permanent occupation. On August 16, 1862, he enlisted in Company F, 13th Pennsylvania cavalry volunteers and served until July 14, 1865, at which time he was honorably discharged, first as a private and later as a non-commissioned officer. Politically he was a Democrat until the breaking out of the Civil war, at which time he took up the Republican cause, and ever afterward voted with and supported that party. In religion he was a member of the Episcopal church, and died at Norristown, this county, November 8th, 1877, aged forty-nine years and nine months. In 1853 he married Margaret A. Miller, a daughter of William and Mary A. Miller, of this county, and by that marriage had a family of twelve children, only six of whom lived to reach maturity: Charles M., Joseph S., the subject of this sketch; Samuel L., George W., Mary L., who is now deceased; and Lewis, jr. The other six died in infancy. Mrs. Margaret A. Rambo was born December 12, 1837, and she is living and well.

Joseph S. Rambo was reared principally at Norristown, this county, to which place the family removed from Lower Merion, this county, in 1862, and obtained a good practical education in the public schools of this borough. He has resided here ever since, with the exception of six months spent in Philadelphia and four years and four months residence in Pittsburg. He began life on his own account at an early age as an employee in a cotton and woolen factory, and after working at that business in various factories for some time, he entered a tack factory and learned the trade of tack tinning. At the latter business he worked in Philadelphia and Pittsburg, and in 1883 embarked in the business for himself as a member of the firm of S. P. Hollis & Co. After continuing the manufacture of tacks for something over a year, the firm sold out to the Central Tack association, in December, 1884, and Mr. Rambo returned to Norristown. He then purchased a small textile manufacturing business in the city of Philadelphia, but soon afterward sold out and embarked in the manufacture of hosiery at Norristown, under the firm name of Rambo & Lee. During the first year Mr. Lee retired from the business and Mr. Rambo conducted it alone for a time. In September, 1886, Mr. H. K. Regar (see his sketch) was admitted to a partnership in the business, and the firm name has ever since been Rambo and Regar. Their factory is known as the Globe Knitting Mills, and is located at the corner of Moore and Walnut streets, Norristown. Here they manufacture seamless hosiery of every kind and size, and their goods find a ready sale in the markets, their registered trade mark being a guarantee of superiority wherever it is known. In addition to his connection with the Globe Knitting Mills,

Jos. A. Rambo

Mr. Rambo is largely interested in a number of other industrial enterprises about Norristown. He is president of the Penn Tack company and of the Excelsior Automatic Knitting Machine company; a director of the Norristown Woolen company and the Norristown shoe company, and is a stockholder in various other companies engaged in different lines of manufacture in the borough and vicinity.

On September 25, 1879, Mr. Rambo was married to Annie E. Dalton, a daughter of Michael and Annie Dalton, of Norristown. To Mr. and Mrs. Rambo have been born five children, two sons and three daughters: Willie C., Annie, Bessie, Joseph, jr. and Florence.

In Politics Mr. Rambo is a staunch Republican, believing implicitly in the policy of protection to American industries. His business career has been one of activity and success, and he stands to-day among the substantial enterprising and useful citizens of Norristown.

ANDREW SUPPLEE, Treasurer of the Union Mutual Fire and Storm Insurance Company, of Norristown, is a son of Alexander H. and Jane M.(Rambo) Supplee, and was born December 5, 1834, at Swedesford hotel, now the location of the borough of Bridgeport, this county. The family for several generations back, have been of American birth although of French origin. Zimmerman Supplee, paternal great-grandfather, lived during the earlier part of his life, in Upper Merion township, this county, where he ranked among the prominent and intelligent citizens, holding local political offices and taking an active interest in the welfare of the community at large. He married Hannah Henderson, of Upper Merion township, and they became the parents of the following children: Jane C., Alexander H., Andrew J., Henderson, Mary Ann.

Zimmerman Supplee and his wife both lived to the advanced age of eighty years.

Alexander Supplee was born in Upper Merion township, January 1, 1803, was reared upon a farm, became a tiller of the soil himself which worthy craft he followed all his days. He was a man of thorough going spirit and did not confine his activities to the pursuits of farming but lent his services to whatever move that seemed to him for its object the welfare of the community. He was a director of the old Montgomery Mutual Fire Insurance company and president of the Union Mutual Fire and Storm Insurance company. He married Jane M., a daughter of Jonathan Rambo, and four children blessed their union: Jonathan R., Andrew, Mark R. and Hannah, who became the wife of Austin L. Taggart.

Andrew Supplee is indebted to the common schools for his educational training. He remained with his father upon the farm until a short time prior to the latter's death, which occurred in September 1, 1882, when he purchased the farm and successfully plied the avocation of an agriculturist until the Spring of 1886, when he disposed of his landed interests and removed to Norristown. He lived a retired life one year, when he was elected treasurer of the Union Mutual Fire and Storm Insurance company, the duties of which office have since engrossed his attention.

The Union Mutual Fire and Storm Insurance company was organized in 1866, and is regarded as one of the most stable and business institutions of the county.

The present officers of the company are: David Trucksess, president; H. S. Kulp, secretary; and Andrew Supplee, treasurer.

On February 9, 1875, Amanda, daughter of Benjamin H. Cassel, became the wife of Andrew Supplee, and three children, Lizzie C., J. May, and Idora, bless this marital union.

OLIVER N. URNER, a popular and competent magistrate of Norristown, Pennsylvania, is by birth a Chester countian, having been born at French Creek Falls, on April 29, 1843. His fathar was Eli Urner, and his mother's maiden name was Sarah Richards. Mr. Urner's ancestors on both sides are able to trace back their line of descent to the pioneer period of Chester county. On the maternal side he is of Welsh lineage and on the paternal side his ancestry belongs to the Pennsylvania German. Jacob Urner, grandfather, was a farmer by occupation, and is buried in the county of his birth. His father was a native of North Coventry township, and was born May 22, 1820, and died December 10, 1893. He is buried at the Coventry village burying ground. His life was that of a farmer, and he also became warmly interested in politics and public issues of his county. He held various local offices, and at one time was a candidate for nomination to the State legislature, but was defeated by a very small majority. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and ardent in support of all its interests. He was also a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and of the Masonic order. His family consisted of nine children, five of whom are still living: Oliver N., Hannah E., wife of Lewis Burgoyne, of Buckstown, Chester county; Allen W., Jacob F., and Webster Clay. Those deceased are: Franklin P., Elizabeth, John W., and Mary Alice.

Oliver N. Urner was brought up in Chester county, received his education in the public schools and after the completion of his preliminary education, taught school for a period of eight years. In 1872 he removed to Pottstown, this county, where he followed auctioneering and other business pursuits until the election of Col. M. M. Missimer as clerk of courts. Mr. Missimer recognized his executive ability and at that time selected him as his deputy, which position he held until the end of the term. During his stay in the office of clerk of courts he was appointed the successor of H. S. Smith, and held that position for seven months, having been commissioned by Governor Hoyt to fill the unexpired term occasioned by Mr. Smith's death. After the expiration of this term of service he again followed auctioneering and conveyancing until the year of 1889, at which time he was elected justice of the peace. He has held that office continuously down to the present time, and during his incumbency has handled more business than any other justice of the peace in the county. Mr. Urner is a Repubiican in politics and has always been prominently identified with that party. In 1881 he was the nominee of his party for clerk of courts but was defeated. He is a member of the Improved Order Heptasophs.

Mr. Urner was married on November 14, 1863, to Sarah Murphy, of French Creek Falls, Chester county. This marriage resulted in the birth of seven children, five of whom are living. Those deceased are John W. and Alanetta. The names of those living are Daniel W., Annie S., Minnie M., Bessie and Nellie H.

Mr. Urner is one of the best known mag-

istrates in the county. He is thoroughly familiar with every function of the magistrate's office. His long connection with the various county offices has rendered him competent in all matters of legal form and procedure. In addition to these qualifications, he is a man of affable and agreeable manner and of acknowledged integrity.

WILLIAM K. GRESH, manufacturer, of Norristown, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, is a son of Daniel and Susan (Kuser) Gresh, and was born January 23, 1834, in Pottsgrove township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania. The family of which Mr. Gresh is a member is of German origin and was transplanted from the old to the new world by Nicholas Gresh, who settled in Berks county, Pennsylvania, after serving a period as a soldier in the Revolutionary war. His children were as follows: Christian, Charles, Nicholas, Daniel, and Elizabeth Wentzel.

Daniel Gresh (father) was born in Berks county, was reared upon his father's farm and then indentured himself to learn the trade of a weaver. He married Susanna Kruser, a Berks county lady of French lineage, and they became the parents of the following children: Augustus, Edwin, John, William K., subject; Rachel, wife of Harmon Custer; Leah, who married Alexander Hummel; Emaline, wife of George Hesch; Elizabeth, wife of William Glase; Henry, Abel, Kate A., and Milton.

William K. Gresh received his education in the common schools of Berks and Montgomery counties, but by far the most essential elements of his education have been obtained in the business world and through a study of men and economic questions as he meets them in the everyd-ay walks of life rather than from books. At the age of seventeen he assumed the responsibilities of life on his own account, and at the age of eighteen started a brick yard at Center Point, in Worcester township, this county, and in connection with this enterprise he also did some work as a contractor and builder. In the meantime his enterprising spirit led him to begin the manufacture of cigars on a small scale in his own house. In 1867 he removed to Perkiomen township, where he purchased land. He remained in that township five years, carefully looking after every detail of the newly founded enterprise and had the satisfaction of seeing it expand and prosper until 1872, when he removed to Norristown. Here he purchased land upon which to erect a factory, the size of which soon proved too small for his constantly increasing business, compelling him to enlarge it. In 1891 he built the factory which he now occupies. It is located on the corner of Marshall and Corson streets, and is fifty by ninety feet, and four stories high, a handsome brick structure of rare architectural beauty and utility, perhaps the finest cigar factory in the county. The enterprise is ranked among the most substantial industries of Norristown, and gives employment to over three hundred hands.

At the age of twenty-one, Mr. Gresh married Leah, a daughter of Peter Hendricks, of Worcester township, this county, and their marital union has been blessed in the birth of the following children: Edwin Pierce, Hervey Clinton, William Parry, Kate, wife of John Geller; and Earl, deceased. Mr. Gresh is a Democrat politically, but was elected a member of the borough council from a strongly Republican ward, a fact attesting in a marked degree to his standing and popularity in the community.

For many years he has been an elder of Trinity Reformed church, and is strongly in sympathy and prominently identified with all forms of church work.

Mr. Gresh owes his success in life to indomitable will power, coupled with good judgment and an honesty of purpose and probity of character that inspires confidence in all those with whom he has had business or social relations.

JAMES APPLEBY HURST, an enterprising contractor and builder of Norristown, is a son of Thomas and Elizabeth Hurst, and was born February 18, 1852, at Norristown, this county. Thomas Hurst, father, was born in England, in February, 1818, and died in Norristown, July 12, 1885. He was reared in his native country and obtained a rudimentary education in the national schools of that country. He learned the trade of stocking maker, married in his native land and in the year 1845, with his wife and one child, Mary, emigrated to the United States, locating at Norristown, where he followed his trade up to the time of his death. Coming to this country at a time marked by stormy political revolutions and the disintegration of old parties, he allied himself with that party, one of whose avowed principles was against the extension of slavery. His marriage resulted in the birth of four children: Mary, wife of Sylvester Slough, of Norriton; George W., Elizabeth, wife of John D. Weber, of Norristown, and James Appleby.

James Appleby Hurst, did not have many advantages for securing an education. He attended the public schools of Norristown two terms and also for a short time the same grade of schools in Lower Providence township, during the winter months very irregularly. He was a boy of spirit and industry, and at the age of thirteen left home and secured work on a farm, working at first for his board. At the age of seventeen years, he came to Norristown, with forty dollars in his pocket, to learn the trade of a carpenter. He served faithfully an apprenticeship of four years, devoting his spare moments diligently to study and the acquisition of a better education than he posessed. After mastering the trade, he followed journeywork at various places over the country from 1873 to 1875.

In 1878 he embarked in the contracting and building business on his own account at Norristown, where he has since remained engaged in the same line of business. It is only necessary to look at the determination, shown in the boyhood of James A. Hurst, to divine what elements he would display as a man. Determination, perseverance, and stick-to-itiveness, have been his ruling characteristics, and have brought him a full measure of success. He soon became known as an industrious and trustworthy workman and consequently his business expanded and prospered so that at times he has had under his employ as many as fifty skilled workmen. Since 1883 he has done considerable in the line of building houses for himself and now owns considerable real estate in the borough including a partnership in forty valuable building lots. He was one of the organizers of the West Norristown Building and Loan Association of which he is treasurer and is connected with a number of other business enterprises of the borough. Shortly after becoming a member of the First Baptist church in 1876, he was made a trustee, a relation he sustained to that church until 1887, when he became one of the organizers

of the Second Baptist church, of which organization he was made deacon and treasurer, positions he has since held. He is a no less ardent, devoted and consistent member of the church, than thorough going and enterprising business man. He is a Republican in politics and has served one term as a member of the borough council from the 7th ward.

On May 30, 1878, Mr. Hurst married Wilhelmina, a daughter of William White, a lime burner of Norristown. She was born January 23, 1853, and died October 7, 1894. Three children were born to their marriage union, all of whom died quite young.

JOSEPH WARREN ROYER, M. D., one of the oldest and best known physicians of the county, a son of Judge Joseph and Elizabeth (Dewees) Royer, was born at the Trappe, Upper Providence township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, July 21, 1820. While reputed of German origin, tradition claims that the Royer family is French and was driven into Germany by religious persecution during the fifteenth century. Sebastian Royer, or Reier, with his four sons came from Germany about 1725 and settled in Pennsylvania. One of the grandsons, John Royer, a son of Karl Reier, was the grandfather of Dr. Royer, and married Anna C. Apfel, by whom he had nine children. Their only son was Judge Joseph Royer, who was born February 6, 1784, two miles west of Trappe, in Providence township, then Philadelphia county, now Upper Providence township, Montgomery county. Judge Royer, though possessing a limited school education, was a man of general information and a pleasing conversationalist. He was a man of intellect, character and will, and possessed social endowments of a high order. His ability, standing and worth won him honored positions. In 1821 and in 1822 he served as a member of the Pennsylvania house of representatives. He was offered a third term but declined, and in 1837, without solicitation upon his part, was appointed by Governor Ritner, an associate judge of the courts of Montgomery county, a position he held with credit and honor until 1851, when the office become elective by the State constitution of 1850. Judge Royer was engaged in the general mercantile business at Trappe, Pa., for over thirty-five years. He died November 9, 1863, when in the eightieth year of his age. Judge Royer, in 1818, wedded Elizabeth Dewees, who was a daughter of David and Mary Catharine Dewees, nee Seltzer. She was born December 19, 1797, and lived to be almost ninety years of age, dying September 22, 1887. Her remains were buried beside her husband's in the Lutheran cemetery at Trappe. The children of Judge and Mrs. Royer are: Francis, J. Warren, Lewis, J. Dewees, C. John, Horace, Henry and Josephine, wife of M. L. Kohler, Esq., of Philadelphia.

Joseph Warren Royer, after attending the common schools and being under the instructions of a private tutor, took a four years' course at Lafayette college, at Easton, Pa., and then entered Princeton college, of Princeton, New Jersey, where he became a member of the senior class and was graduated from that old and famous institution of learning in 1842. After graduation he commenced the study of medicine and in 1843 entered the medical department of the University of Pennsylvania, from which he was graduated in the class of 1845. Soon after receiving his diploma he commenced

the practice of his profession at Trappe, where he has remained up to the present time. In 1876 he formed a partnership with Dr. W. J. Ashenfelter, which lasted until 1880.

Dr. Royer has been in active practice for over fifty years at Trappe and the field of his professional labors has been very extensive, and extending beyond his own and into Chester county. Dr. Royer is a member of the different medical societies of Montgomery county, was physician and surgeon for the County Home from 1881 to 1892, and in 1894 and 1895 was one of the two present physicians appointed for that institution. He is an able and interesting medical writer, and wields a ready pen on political, civil and religious topics of public import or general interest. He is a Republican politically, and has been identified for a number of years with the Trappe Reformed church, with which congregation he worships. He is a member and the treasurer of Warren Lodge No. 310, Free and Accepted Masons, of Trappe, which Masonic body was named in honor of him for his zealous labors in securing its organization.

On September 29, 1863, Dr. Joseph W. Royer married Anna Herbert, daughter of Henry Herbert, Esq., of Frankford, Philadelphia. To Dr. and Mrs. Royer were born six sons and three daughters: Stella and Walter, who are deceased; May, wife of Rev. O. H. E. Rauch, pastor of the Reformed church, of Royer's Ford; Ralph, a professional singer; Carl, now employed in the general office of the Fidelity Insurance company of Philadelphia; Joseph W., a machinist, also residing in Philadelphia; Jessie, who is an elocutionist; Henry H., drowned at nine years of age; and Paul, who died in infancy.

DR. CHARLES T. WAAGE, a physician of nearly a half century's experience of Pennsburg, this county, is a son of Frederick and Angeline (Garber) Waage, and was born October 22, 1827, at Milton, Northumberland county, Pennsylvania.

Frederick Waage (father) was born in the Dukedom of Holstein, Denmark, on August 17, 1797, where he profited by attendance upon the excellent schools for which that country is noted, and completed a course of study in the University at Kiel. At the age of twenty-two years he came alone to the United States and located in Chester county. Young Waage had a strong desire to enter the profession of the ministry. He accordingly took up the study of theology and kindred subjects under the tutelage of Rev. Geisenheimer, a Lutheran minister of Chester county. After making a thorough preparation for his chosen work, he was ordained as a minister of the Lutheran church, and for sixty years zealously labored in the cause of the Divine Master. For a number of years he was stationed at Milton, Northumberland county, and in 1829 took charge of St. Luke's church at Pennsburg, where he remained forty years, supplying at the same time five other churches of the neighborhood, being assisted by his younger son. His marriage relation resulted in the birth of three sons and seven daughters: Hannah, deceased; Charles T., subject; Angeline, deceased, was the wife of Dr. Edwin Bieber; Fannie, who wedded Isaac Crouse, of Crousedale, Lehigh county, Pennsylvania; Andora, became the spouse of Charles Gaston, an attorney of St. Paul, Minnesota; Emma, deceased, was the wife of Charles Gilfillan, also of St. Paul, Minnesota; Fannie, who married Charles Gilfillan, the widower of her sister; Rev. O. F., who was born February 4, 1845, at the

old Lutheran parsonage near Pennsburg, was educated in the Bucks County Normal and Classical schools under the direction of Rev. Dr. Horn, of Quakertown; graduated from the Gettysburg Lutheran seminary, and at once entered upon the work of the ministry, taking his father's entire charge and has ever since been actively and zealously engaged in the work of his profession; Edwin, died at the age of five years.

Rev. Frederick Waage died on August 23, 1884, at the age of eighty-seven years. His widow still survives.

Dr. Charles Waage received his preliminary education in Washington Hall seminary, at the Trappe, this county, and in a private school at Easton under the tuition of Prof. Vandeveer. Having resolved upon the study of medicine, he entered Jefferson Medical college of Philadelphia, from which well known and popular institution he was graduated in March, 1849. He at once entered upon the practice of his chosen profession, locating at East Rock Hill, in Bucks county, where he remained six years, when he came to Pennsburg and has remained there ever since. Dr. Waage's experience as a practitioner of medicine spans an epoch in the history of the profession marked by great progress and with which progress he has ever since kept pace. He has been a useful man in the community in which he has lived for most a half century in other ways than as a skilled practitioner of medicine. He has always had at heart the political, social, educational and material interests of the community. He is a devout member of the Lutheran church, a Democrat in political texture, and has served twenty-three years continuously as a member of the school board of his borough, always taking an active and intelligent interest in the cause of popular education.

Fraternally he is a member of Pennsburg Lodge No. 449, I. O. O. F.; Barger Lodge of F. and A. M., and Greenville Lodge Knights of Pythias. He has been a director of the Farmers' and Mechanics' bank at Pennsburg, and for ten years a director of the Perkiomen Valley railroad.

On September 15, 1853, he married Mary Anna Heisler, who died December 8, 1874, at the age of forty years. To this marriage were born four children: Ida, deceased, born August 28, 1854; Emma, deceased, born February 29, 1856; Eugene, who was born October 30, 1860, resides in Philadelphia, and Charles Frederick, born September 11, 1862, died in infancy. Dr. Waage married for his second wife, on August 29, 1876, Lydia Eshbach; and one child, Mary Catharine, born October 27, 1877, blesses this union.

WILLIAM M. SULLIVAN, a prominent marble dealer and business man of Norristown, is a son of Florence and Ann E. (Main) Sullivan, and was born October 7, 1861, at Norristown, this county. His grandfather, on the paternal side of the family was Phillip Sullivan, who was a native of County Kerry, Ireland, whence, to escape the crowed economic conditions of his own country, he emigrated to this country in 1823. He first located with his wife and family at Philadelphia, where he was engaged as a merchant in the white lead business. His children were three in number: Florence, Margaret and Mary. Florence Sullivan, father, was born on the "Emerald Island," in county Kerry, March 20, 1816. He was brought to this country when but six years of age by his parents, who settled in Philadelphia. Before attaining to his majority he learned the trade

of hatter, and at the age of twenty-two, came to Norristown and entered the employ of Moses Auge, a hat manufacturer of that place. He soon embarked in the business on his own account at West Chester, Pennsylvania, remaining there, however, but a short time, when he came back to Norristown and was taken into partnership with his former employer. After a few years he went into the business on his own account and continued it until 1878, when he retired. He was a republican politically, and took a prominent part in the politics of his borough and county. He served a number of terms as borough councilman, five consecutive years as borough treasurer, and from 1857 to 1860, as prothonotary of Montgomery county, was Prison inspector three terms, serving in that position of trust at the time of his death, and was a director in the Norristown Water company.

When that crisis arose threatening the invasion of the grand old "Keystone State," he twice responded to the call for troops in the emergency service. Upon the first response he was made first lieutenant, and upon the second was made captain of a company. He was a charter member of the Montgomery Fire company, and a past officer of Montgomery Lodge, I. O. O. F., and a member of Charity Lodge, No. 90, F. and A. M.

His married life extends over a period of fifty-four years, and resulted in the birth of the following children: Hannah; Ellen, wife of Henry A. Derr, of Norristown; Harry L, Sophia, wife of David Kerbaugh, of New York City; Florence, who became the wife of Isaac C. Weber, and William M. Mr. Sullivan was an exemplary citizen, uniformly kind and genial in his intercourse with his fellow men. He was a model husband and father, happily combining the qualities that make a person loved and esteemed in all relations of life; a man of strictest integrity and an excellent business man, even up to the day of his death. He died June 16, 1894, in his seventy-ninth year.

William M. Sullivan, subject of sketch, was educated in the public schools of Norristown, and in the Tremont seminary, at the same place. He learned the trade of a marble cutter with Henry A. Derr, who then owned and operated the yard now operated by Mr. Sullivan. He remained with Mr. Derr until 1884, when he purchased the plant and has since operated it on his own account. He does a large business in his line, giving employment at times to a force of twenty-five men, doing much of the finest marble work in Norristown. As samples of his work we would suggest the following: The marble work on the Wernersville State Insane Asylum, a contract amounting to twenty-seven thousand dollars; the same line of work on the building of the Norristown Trust, Title and Safe Deposit company; St. Patrick's Parochial school, on the corner of Green and Chestnut streets, Norristown; Chain Street Public school building; the building of the Adam Scheidt Brewing Company; Bomberger Memorial Hall at Collegeville; Ambler Opera House, and the Ambler Baptist and Presbyterian churches at Ambler, this county. In 1894 he erected a granite monument on the battle field of Antietam, to commemorate the valor of those members of the Thirty-fifth Massachusetts regiment who fell in that conflict. For the efficient manner in which this work was done, he received a letter of high recommendation from the Committee having the work in charge. He cut the stone for the Pennsylvania State building

at the World's Fair. Mr. Sullivan is a Republican and a member of Curtis Lodge, No. 139, I. O. O. F.

On September 16, 1885, Mr. Sullivan married Margaret S., a daughter of James Long; and four children, Florence, Helen, Ralph and Stanley, bless this union.

DR. JESSE ZIEGLER HILLEGAS, a veterinary surgeon and an extensive breeder of fine horses, is a son of Dr. John G. and Catharine (Ziegler) Hillegas, and was born March 24, 1868, on Perkiomen Creek, in Upper Hanover township, this county.

The ancestral history of Dr. Jesse Z. Hillegas appears under the sketch of his father. He received his education in the public schools of his native township and in Perkiomen seminary at Pennsburg, under the direction of Professor C. S. Weand. He then took a commercial course in a business college at Allentown, Lehigh county, this State. In 1888 he entered the Ontario Veterinary college at Toronto, Canada, from which he was graduated in 1890, with the degree of V. S. He at once located at his home in Upper Hanover township and entered upon the practice of his profession and remained there until 1892, when he came to Pennsburg. In connection with his professional work, he has since that time been engaged largely in buying and selling horses, handling more than any other dealer in this part of the county. Dr. Hillegas takes a special delight in the breeding and training of fine horses, and possesses a number of thorough breds with good speed records. Among them are the celebrated stallion "John F," who has a record of 2.39¼ on a one-third mile track; "Charley West," a promising young horse now in training; "Dozer" 16149, by "Blue Bull" 4893, dam "Duchess," by "Duke of Brunswick" 14266; and "Jesse Z.," his favorite driving horse, with a record of 2.38¼. He also deals extensively in cattle, buying and shipping to the New York and Philadelphia markets.

Politically he is a Democrat, and was a delegate to the State convention that nominated William M. Singerly for governor in 1894. Fraternally he is a member of Perkiomen Lodge No. 595, F. & A. M., and of the Ontario Medical society.

On September 15, 1892, he married Katie S., a daughter of Henry Walford, of Harleysville, this county.

WILLIAM A. HOOVER, a prominent business man of Hooverton, is a son of Judge Hiram C. and Margaret (Dull) Hoover, and was born in Gwynedd township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, November 10, 1847. William A. was reared in Gwynedd and Norriton townships, and received his education in the common schools and Prof. John W. Loch's Tremont seminary, Norristown, where he took the full three year course, and was graduated in the class of 1868. Returning home, he assisted his father in farming for three years, and then conducted the home farm until 1879, when he became a partner with his father in the coal and feed business at Hooverton, once known as Penn Square. Six years later he purchased his father's interest and has conducted the feed and coal business there successfully ever since.

On February 21, 1871, Mr. Hoover married Annie S. Kerper, who was born April 14, 1849, and is a daughter of Charles and

Margaret (Henk) Kerper, of Whitemarsh township. Mr. and Mrs. Hoover have four children, two sons and two daughters: Irving C., Charles O., Clara M. and Mamie K. Mr. and Mrs. Hoover are members of the Reformed church at Blue Bell.

In politics Mr. Hoover has always been a Republican. He has served his township as auditor, and as a school director, and at various times has been judge, inspector and clerk of the election board at his voting place. He is a member of Curtis Lodge No. 239, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and Washington Camp No. 322, Patriotic Order Sons of America.

JACOB TYSON, ex-sheriff of Norristown, was born near the Trappe, this county, on June 10, 1818, and is a son of Jacob and Elizabeth (Bergey) Tyson. His ancestors were residents of the county for about five generations and are of Dutch descent. John Tyson, his grandfather, was a weaver by trade and a very well educated man in those days. He took an interest in public affairs, frequentiy served on election boards and was a general factotem in his neighborhood.

On the maternal side, sheriff Tyson's ancestors sprang from an old Revolutionary family. His father was born near Skippackville, this county, January 6, 1786. He was a farmer by occupation, considered a good business man, a hard worker, and was esteemed as a man of the strictest integrity. In his religious affiliations he was a member of the German Reformed church. Jacob Tyson had nine children, three of whom are still living. Those deceased are: Susan, Charles, Mary, Abram, John, and Margaret. Those living are: Jacob, Elizabeth and Harriet. Abram and John emigrated to Canada in 1845, were married in the Provinces and brought up large families. Abram located permanently in Berlin, Waterloo county, and John in the city of Guelph, both places being in Canada West.

During his boyhood Jacob alternated his time working on his father's farm and going to school as was the custom for a boy reared on a farm. He has continued to live on the same homestead for a period of sixty years.

During this time, in addition to the conducting of large farming interests, he was engaged in the butchering business for twenty years, part of which time he drove a wagon throughout a portion of the county. He continued the quiet routine of a farmer's life until 1877, when he was prevailed upon to offer himself as a candidate for the position of high sheriff of Montgomery county.

He was elected to this office and during his incumbency made a very efficient officer. For a number of years subsequent he was actively identified with the political and public interests of the county, but during the past dozen of years he has been engaged in the coal business, although he lives semi-retired.

Politically, Sheriff Tyson is a Democrat and has always been a staunch supporter of the policy of that party. He was president of the live stock company of his township for many years and has filled various local and political places of trust. He is a member of the German Reformed church.

Mr. Tyson was married on March, 12, 1846, to Sarah Y. Lindeman, daughter of Isaac Lindeman, Esq., of Limerick Square, this county. This marriage resulted in the birth of seven children, all of whom are living: Wilmina, (wife of Joseph R. Hun-

Jacob Bysaw

sicker); Joanna, wife of H. H. Hunsicker; John H., Mary, Sallie L., widow of Amos Forker; Harriet, and Elizabeth, wife of C. R. Free.

HARVEY SCHAFFER BRANDT, one of the editors and proprietors of the Norristown *Review*, is a son of Joseph R. and Samaria (Schaffer) Brandt, and was born February 9, 1858, in Limerick township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania. The family was among the first settlers of the northern part of Montgomery county, having emigrated thither, from the Fatherland, prior to the Revolutionary war. Samuel Brandt (grandfather) was born in the northern part of this county, and in his latter days followed the avocation of a farmer. He was a Democrat of the Jeffersonian school and a member of the German Reformed church.

He married a Miss Rahn and they were the parents of nine children: Joseph R. (father), Elizabeth, Susanna R., Washington, Catharine, Frederick, Hannah, Samuel and Emma. Joseph R. Brandt (father) was born in Frederick township, this county, in the year 1830. His education was obtained in the common schools. Leaving school he learned the trade of a plasterer, which trade he followed but a short time and then engaged in mercantile pursuits, but at the time of his death was engaged in agricultural pursuits in Limerick township, this county. He subscribed to the dogmas of the German Reformed church and for a number of years prior and up to his death, held the office of elder. He married Samaria Shaffer and they became the parents of six children, four sons and two daughters: Clara S., deceased, unmarried; Harvey S, subject; Maurice, a hotel-keeper at Elko, Nevada; Joseph Henry, whose sketch follows; Norma L., deceased, was the wife of Joseph E. Boucot; Oscar S, an engraver in the employ of the Tiffany jewelry house, of New York city. Joseph Brandt died in 1872, at the age of forty-two years. His widow is still living.

Harvey Schaffer Brandt was educated in the public school of Limerick township, this county, and at Washington Hall Collegiate Institute, at the Trappe, this county. His father dying while he was at school and he being the eldest son, he was compelled to relinquish all ideas of further scholastic training and take charge of the farm, remaining in this charge until the farm was sold. In 1876 he came to Pottstown, and for two years was employed with Captain William Auchenbach, in the wholesale and retail grocery business. In 1878 he took a clerkship in the employ of H. G. Kulp and Company, hardware merchants of that borough, remaining there ten years. In 1889 he removed to Norristown and became a business partner with his brother under the firm name of J. H. Brandt and Brother. In political texture he has always been a staunch Democrat, in the success of which party he takes a lively interest. He was one of the founders of the Young Men's Democratic Club of Pottstown, one of the strongest political clubs in the Schuylkill valley, and was its secretary until he left that borough. He is a member of Reynolds Castle No. 44, Knights of the Golden Eagle, at Pottstown, and a member of Montgomery Lodge, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, of Norristown. He was a devoted member of Trinity Reformed church at Pottstown, in which church organization he served as deacon three terms up to the time of his leaving the town, and for four years prior

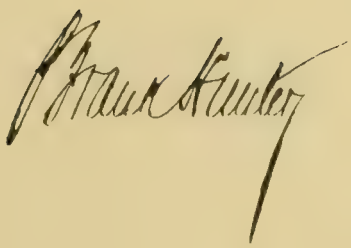
to leaving the borough was superintendent of the Sabbath school. He helped organize the Church Extension Society in connection with Trinity church, of which he was elected first president. It was through the efforts of this society that the handsome stone chapel, in connection with the church was built, Mr. Brandt being chairman of the building committee. Since his removal to Norristown he has associated his family with the Reformed Church of the Ascension and is actively engaged in their Mission in the West End, a few squares from his comfortable home.

May 10, 1881 he married Ella M, a daughter of Mahlon Rimby, the oldest undertaker of Pottstown, and two children bless their union: Miriam L., who died in infancy, and Florence Ella, born August 26, 1890.

PERRY FRANKLIN HUNTER, assistant treasurer of the Pennsylvania railroad company, was born at Gulf Mills, Lower Merion township, Montgomery county, August 27, 1855. His ancestors on his father's side came from the north of England, and his maternal ancestors came from France. At the old Episcopal church in Durham, England, are the graves of General Anthony Hunter, Sir John and Sir Thomas Hunter and many others of the family name, the records of whom extend back to the year 1605. John Hunter resided at the close of the seventeenth century in Medomsley Hall, Medomsley, Gateshead, Durham, England. He was a strong church man, and on account of religious persecution removed to Ireland, and later entered the Protestant army as a trooper, participating in the battle of Boyne in 1690, in which engagement he was wounded in the hip by a musket ball. The holster and pistols used by him in the battle are still in possession of his descendants. John Hunter came to America in 1722, and located near Downingtown, Pennsylvania, but in as much as the country thereabouts was so unsettled he shortly purchased a large tract in Newtown township, Chester county, (now Delaware county), where he passed the remainder of his life. His body is interred in the church yard connected with St. David's Episcopal church at Radnor, this State, of which church he was a member and one of its most active founders. James Hunter, the youngest son of John Hunter, and George Hunter, the fourth son of James, resided on the homestead property in Newtown township.

Perry MacDonough Hunter (father of P. Frank Hunter) was the youngest son of George Hunter, and was born in 1814. He was well educated, and at the age of sixteen became an apprentice in a general store. In 1837 he started in a general mercantile business at Gulf Mills, Montgomery county, and in 1843 he purchased the Bird-in-Hand hotel property at Gulf Mills, which included the store property, converting the hotel into a residence, which he occupied until the fall of 1855. Perry M. Hunter married Rebecca Ann Pechin, second daughter of George and Mary Pechin, of Lower Merion township, on March 23, 1848.

The Pechin family is of French origin, Christopher Pechin having come to America from France in 1750. He became a rich shipping merchant of Philadelphia, owned vessels and imported wine from France, and was also engaged in the business of insuring vessels and their cargoes. His place of business was on Water street, above Arch, Philadelphia, and he resided in a large



mansion on Front street, which was invaded by the English soldiers during the Revolutionary war and valuable property destroyed. Christopher Pechin's body is interred in St. Paul's cemetery, at the rear of St. Paul's Episcopal church, on Third street, below Walnut, Philadelphia, and his tombstone bears the following inscription:

"Death has conquered life,
but Christ hath conquered death,
and I shall live again."

Peter Pechin, youngest son of Christopher Pechin, carried on the business of a tanner, currier and farmer. He had the vivacity of the French, was very energetic and successful in business, owning several tanneries. In his will he bequeathed one or more farms to each of his children besides considerable personal property. George Pechin, eldest son of Peter Pechin, learned the trade of tanner and currier with his father. He owned several farms in Lower Merion township, and after his retirement from active business in 1851, he removed to Bridgeport, this county. His second daughter, Rebecca Ann Pechin, married Perry M. Hunter, as above stated.

Perry M. Hunter, while having the general store at Gulf Mills, also engaged in the woolen manufacturing business at that place. His mill property there was destroyed by fire and in the spring of 1859 he purchased the property now known as Watts' mill in Norristown, Pennsylvania, and continued the manufacture of woolen goods. This property he sold in 1864 and about the same time disposed of his interest in the general store at Gulf Mills. In March, 1865, he purchased the mill property on Main street, below Arch, Norristown, (now owned by the Norristown Woolen Company) and in 1868 the mill property at Barbadoes and Airy street, Norristown, at both of which places he carried on the business of manufacturing woolen goods until his death in November, 1868.

Mr. Hunter with his family removed from Gulf Mills to Bridgeport in 1855 and to Norristown in 1866. He was a Democrat in politics, took an active interest in the welfare of his county and was prominent in the councils of the party. He was twice elected treasurer of Montgomery county, in 1853 and 1854. He was at one time director of the bank of Montgomery county (now Montgomery National Bank) at Norristown, Pennsylvania, and also one of the organizers of the bank of Pottstown, being one of the first directors. For several years he was one of the board of inspectors of the Montgomery county prison, and at the time of his death was president of the town council, having previously served in the council as a member from the Third ward of Norristown. He regularly attended services at St. John's Episcopal church at Norristown, and was a member of the vestry and treasurer of the church during the latter years of his life.

Rebecca A. Hunter, wife of Perry M. Hunter, was a woman of uncommon force of character, exceptionally faithful and conscientious in the performance of all the duties of her life. She was kind of heart, benevolent in disposition, and took an active interest in the affairs of St. John's Episcopal church, of which she was a devoted member, ministering among the poor and lowly and giving freely of her substance, her time and her strength. She died December 22, 1891, aged sixty-five years, and a short time after her death, in honor of her merits as a woman, a Christian and a mother, her three sons placed a beautiful memorial window in the church she loved. The children of Perry M. and Rebecca A.

Hunter were Silanus Pearson, Ashley Pechin and Perry Franklin.

P. Frank Hunter, the subject of this article, was educated in the public schools of Bridgeport and Norristown, Pennsylvania, and also at Tremont seminary, located at the same place. In 1870, shortly before reaching the age of fifteen years, he entered into business as a clerk with a Norristown merchant, where he remained for two years. He then took a course of instruction at Bryant and Stratton's Business college, Philadelphia, and in December, 1872, became a book-keeper in a wholesale house on Market street, Philadelphia, which position he relinquished in 1874, and on July 1 of that year entered the service of the Pennsylvania Railroad company as a clerk in the ticket assorting room of the auditor of passenger receipts. He remained in this department for nine years, during which time he took an active part in introducing certain changes in the methods of handling conductor's accounts, and in the instruction and examination of conductors with a view to improving the service. He was also one of the travelling examiners of station agents' accounts. On June 1, 1883, he was promoted to the position of chief book-keeper in the comptroller's office, in which position he had charge of the general books of the company and of the preparation of statistical information for the use of offices of the company and for the annual reports. He was also called upon as an expert accountant to ascertain and report on the financial condition of corporations in which the Pennsylvania railroad company became interested. On April 1, 1893, he was transferred from the accounting department to the treasury department, having been appointed by the board of directors assistant to the treasurer. He was appointed assistant treasurer of the Pennsylvania Railroad company, on January 1, 1895. In addition to this latter position he is also assistant treasurer of the Philadelphia, Wilmington and Baltimore Railroad company, West Jersey Railroad company, and the Camden and Atlantic Railroad company.

Mr. Hunter, who is yet a young man, has by sheer merit risen from one of the lowest clerkships in the Pennsylvania Railroad company's service to the position of assistant treasurer of that great corporation owning or controlling about nine thousand miles of railway and canal, with an invested capital of over eight hundred millions of dollars.

Mr. Hunter was married June 26, 1878, to Mary Albertson, eldest daughter of J. Morton Albertson, a prominent banker and manufacturer of Norristown, Pennsylvania. Their children are: Sarah Albertson, Rebecca Anna, Morton Albertson (deceased), and Perry Franklin.

Mr. Hunter, in politics, is a staunch Republican, although the requirements of his business have prevented him from taking an active interest in the affairs of his party. In religion he holds to the faith of his ancestors, being a member of St. John's Episcopal church of Norristown, in the work of which he takes an active interest. He is a member of the vestry, was one of the building committee which erected All Saints Chapel in the western part of Norristown, and is now one of the committee in charge of the work at that chapel. He is also a member of the Masonic fraternity, a director of the Albertson Trust and Safe Deposit company of Norristown, and of the Norristown Woolen company.

In business circles Mr. Hunter is recognized as a skilled accountant and as possess-

ing financial ability of a high order. He is energetic, thorough and careful, and discharges with strict fidelity and integrity the duties of his offices. He resides in Norristown, Pennsylvania.

SAMUEL DRESHER, the only surviving member of the original Dresher family of Montgomery county, is a son of Oliver and Annie (Anders) Dresher, and was born at Dreshertown, Upper Dublin township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, March 17, 1830. The Dresher and Ander families are among the oldest families in the county, and Samuel Dresher traces his ancestral line on the paternal side to George and Maria Dresher, natives of Silesia, Germany, who came to Towamencin townshipin 1734. Their grandson, George Dresher, came into Upper Dublin township about 1781, and served as a supervisor in 1788, and again in 1792. Christopher Dresher, son of George Dresher, was born in 1771, and became the founder of Dreshertown.

Oliver Dresher (father) was a son of George Dresher, and a grandson of Christopher Dresher, who built the old Dresher mill that remained in the possession of the old Dresher family for over a hundred years. Oliver Dresher was born in 1804, and passed from time to eternity March 17, 1880, when in the seventy-sixth year of his age. He was a farmer by occupation and a miller by trade. In connection with his farm he ran the old Dresher mill for several years. He was a Whig in politics and had been a conscientious and consistent member of the Schwenkfelter church from his boyhood. He had served repeatedly as supervisor of roads and as a member of the board of school directors in Upper Dublin township. He owned a valuable farm and married Annie Anders, who was a daughter of Abraham Anders, of Worcester township, and died July 21, 1894, aged eighty-four years, eight months and twenty-one days.

Mr. and Mrs. Dresher were the parents of two children, a son and a daughter: Samuel, the subject of this sketch; and Tracy Ann, who died March 29, 1853.

Samuel Dresher was reared on the farm, and after attending the public schools engaged in agricultural pursuits, which he followed ever since. His farm of over one hundred acres of good productive land, is situated in Norriton township, about a mile distant from Hartranft station on the Stony Creek railroad. While carefully managing his farm operations, he has been successfully engaged in other lines of business, and ranks with the most progressive business men of his township. On November 9, 1854, Mr. Dresher was united in marriage with Susanna Seipt, daughter of George Seipt, of Worcester township.

Mr. Dresher is a director of the Stony Creek Railroad company, the Montgomery National bank, and the Mutual Fire Insurance company. He is also a director of the Montgomery Trust, Insurance and Safe Deposit company and a trustee of the Perkiomen seminary, located at Pennsburg, this county. Besides these places of business, trust and responsibility, Mr. Dresher has filled various places of political and local significance. He is a Democrat politically, and for a number of years was a member of the school board of his township. He is a member of the Schwenkfelter church, with which he has been connected over half a century, and has served the congregation in the capacity of trustee for the last twenty years.

JACOB L. REX, now resident of Norristown, is a son of John and Sarah (Lentz) Rex, and was born in Whitpain township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, August 31, 1829. The Rex family is of German descent and has been resident for nearly two centuries, in southeastern Pennsylvania, where Mr. Rex's paternal grandfather, Levi Rex, was born. Levi Rex was a native of Philadelphia county. He was a wheelright by trade, and a farmer and hotel keeper by occupation. He owned real estate at Chestnut Hill, where he died, while his remains were interred at Germantown. He wedded Catharine Riter and reared a family. One of his sons was John Rex, the father of the subject of this sketch. John Rex was born in 1800, in Philadelphia county, where he was reared and received his education in the public and private schools of his neighborhood. He was a farmer by occupation, and in 1828 came to Whitpain which he left in 1851 to settle at Norristown. He lived but one year after coming to Norristown, and passed away in April, 1852. He was an old line Whig and took an active part in political and civil affairs. In his younger days he was interested in military affairs, serving in the First City troop of cavalry of Philadelphia. He was a member of the Lutheran church and married Sarah Lentz, whose uncle, General Sheetz, was a very prominent man and a member of the well known Sheetz family of Mongtomery County. To their union were born nine children: Catharine A., wife of Dr. George H. Burgin, deceased, of Germantown; Jacob L., subject; Elizabeth S., wife of Charles Carroll Reeves, of Camden, New Jersey; Mary L., who wedded Dr. George T. Harvey, a native of Doylestown; John S., of Norristown; Emma M., wife of John L. Dubois, a lawyer, of Doylestown; Frederick A., a lawyer of Camden, New Jersey; and Antrim F., who died in infancy.

Jacob L. Rex was reared in Whitpain township and received his education in the district schools and Nazareth Hall school of Nazareth, this State. Quitting school he engaged in farming, which he steadily pursued until 1887. In that year he removed to Norristown and has now retired from all active business pursuits. In politics Mr. Rex is Independent, supporting men or measures independent of party considerations. He served for five years as a justice of the peace. He is a member of the Patrons of Husbandry to which he has belonged for a number of years, and in which organization he has served as master of Wissahickon Grange No. 760, for several terms.

On April 1, 1855, Mr. Rex married Sarah Slingluff, daughter of the late William H. Slingluff. They have three children: Mary S., William S. and John. The sons are both graduates of Pierce's Business college of Philadelphia.

Mrs. Rex was born at Norristown, October 10, 1834, and received her education in Oakland Female seminary near her native town. She was graduated from the seminary on September 29, 1852, and shortly afterwards assumed editorial charge of the floral department of the *Farmer's Friend and Grange Advocate*. She has been a frequent contributor to various other papers interested in agricultural affairs. She was president of the East Pennsylvania Agricultural society, organized at Norristown, and of the Ambler Park society at Ambler. Mrs. Rex was treasurer for two years and is a present director of Charity Hospital association. She was largely instrumental in the erection of the hospital, serving as president of the Women's Auxiliary of the

hospital, and as treasurer of the Hospital Association until the hospital was finished, when she resigned the position. She is librarian of the Montgomery County Historical society. Mrs. Rex has always been prominent and active in the Grange cause. She served for several years as Flora in the State Grange of Pennsylvania, and was a member of its finance committee.

Jacob L. Rex is a great-great-great-grandson, on his mother's side, of Dr. John Jacob Scheetz, a minister of Cregfeldt, on the Rhine, who was a member of the Frankfort company, organized in 1683 to promote and encourage settlement from Germany. His son Henry (great-great-grandfather of Jacob L. Rex) was thus induced to come to Pennsylvania and first settled at Germantown, afterwards removing to a purchase in Whitemarsh township, in Montgomery county, where he spent the remainder of his days. This property was inherited by his son Henry Scheetz, great-grandfather of the said Jacob Lentz Rex, who, in the assessment of 1780, is called a paper-maker and rated for owning a paper mill and eighty acres of land. This mill he built in 1769 on Sandy Run, to which he added afterwards a grist mill which is still standing. He was appointed by the county a justice of the peace before the Revolution, and on the formation of Montgomery county, was commissioned one of the justices of the courts of quarter-sessions and common pleas, which position he resigned March 31, 1784.

THOMAS ROBINSON, superintendent of the Sheet and Plate mills of the great iron works and rolling mill of Alan Wood and Co., of Conshohocken, was born in Derbyshire, England, November 8, 1839, and is a son of James and Anna (Hollingsworth) Robinson, natives of England. James Robinson was a stocking weaver by trade, and in 1846 came to the United States, where he was successively a resident of Chelsea and Portsmouth, Massachusetts; and Norristown and Conshohocken, this county. He was a resident of Conshohocken from 1859 until his death, which occurred October 7, 1881, when he was seventy-two years of age. He was a Republican and Methodist. He married Anna Hollingsworth, who lived to be seventy-five years of age, dying in the Fall of 1886. Their children, twelve in number and all of whom were born in England, were: Catharine, Joseph, John, Tirza, Amy, Alfred, Mary Ann, dead; next child born named Mary Ann, living; George, Thomas, subject; James and Sarah.

Thomas Robinson obtained but a limited education in boyhood, and after attaining his majority, attended a public school for some time in order to better qualify himself for common business pursuits. At eleven years of age he was placed on a farm at Blue Bell, where he received his board and clothes for his work for a period of five years. He then entered James Hooven's rolling mills at Norristown and worked there for three or four years. Leaving there in 1857, he worked in a wire mill owned by Peter Cooper, in New Jersey, but at the close of six months service returned to Norristown. The next year he entered the employ of Alan Wood and Co., of Conshohocken, with whom he has remained ever since. During this long period of nearly forty years, he has served in every department of the great iron works and rolling mills, and is so conversant with all the details of each man's work, that he could take his place upon a moments notice.

He has held various positions about the plant, and since Christmas, 1890, he had charge of the sheet and plate and bar departments, in which three hundred men are constantly employed. He has general control of these departments in which he does the hiring and discharging of the men. In addition to department management in the iron works, Mr. Robinson has found time to engage, to some extent, in various business enterprises. From 1872 up to 1874, he was a member of the firm of Moore and Robinson, which dealt largely in coal and wood. Two years later he and John H. Griffith formed a partnership under the firm name of Robinson and Griffith, and were engaged for three years in the produce and butchering business. Mr. Robinson is a Republican, casting his first vote for Abraham Lincoln, and has served for fifteen years as a councilman and school director of Conshohocken. He is an Encampment Odd Fellow, and has been a member since 1860, of Gratitude Lodge, No. 216, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, in which he has served continuously as treasurer for sixteen years. During Lee's second invasion of the north, he was among the number who volunteered in defence of the State, being a member of Co. F, forty-third regiment, and was stationed for six weeks at Clear Springs, Maryland, and near the Potomac river. Mr. Robinson is positive and energetic in character, progressive in his special line of work, and is recognized as a man of good business qualifications.

On December 28, 1861, Thomas Robinson was united in marriage with Isabella Smith, a daughter of James Smith, of Conshohocken. To their union have been born three sons and four daughters: William, Anna, Thomas, Maggie, Lydia, Lena and Howard. Of these children, William, Maggie and Lydia are deceased; while Thomas is a machinist, Lena, a graduate of Pierce's Business college, and Howard is attending school.

R. WILSON PERRY, a prosperous business man of Norristown, is the youngest son of Samuel and Isabella (Wilson) Perry, and was born at Bridgeport, this county, May 22, 1842. He was brought up in Norristown, where he obtained his elementary education in the public schools. He afterward attended Tremont seminary, under the instructorship of Rev. Samuel Aaron, for one year, and then entered Dickinson seminary at Williamsport. After graduation from the latter institution, he engaged in the book and stationery business with his brother, W. G. Perry, in the city of Philadelphia. About June, 1858, he gave up the stationery business and embarked in the milling business at Dresher-town, Montgomery county. This continued to be his occupation until the outbreak of the Civil war. On September 12, 1861, Mr. Perry entered the service as a private of Company C, 104th Regiment, Pennsylvania volunteers. He was promoted to corporal January 1, 1862, commissioned second lieutenant of Company H, 34th U. S. C. T., and promoted to first lieutenant and adjutant of the same regiment June 20, 1864. From August 15, 1863, to November, 1863, he served as assistant aide-de-camp on the staff of Colonel James Montgomery, commanding the fourth brigade, Terry's division, tenth corps, department of the south. From March, 1865, he was commissioned post adjutant at Jacksonville, Florida, but resigned that post on May 1 of the same year. During his service he

served in the provisional brigade defence of Washington, D. C., until March, 1862; in the first brigade, third division, fourth corps, Army of the Potomac, until December, 1862; second brigade, second division, eighteenth corps, department of North Carolina, until August, 1863; fourth brigade, Terry's division, tenth corps, department of the South, until November, 1863; third brigade, Terry's division, tenth corps, department of the South, until February, 1864; third brigade, second division, district of Florida, department of the South, until April, 1864; fourth separate brigade, district of Florida, tenth corps, department of the South, until May, 1865. During this period of service, Mr. Perry participated in the siege of Yorktown. battle of Williamsburg, Virginia, Bottomsbridge, Savage station, Fair Oaks, Seven Pines, Fort Wagner, Morris' Island, siege of Charleston, Devaux' Neck, South Carolina, Honey Hill, and a number of others of minor importance. Upon the expiration of his commission, on May 1, 1865, he returned to Philadelphia, where for a short time he resumed the book business. Sometime subsequent to this he removed to Savannah, Georgia, where he embarked in the general stationery trade and remained until 1867. At the latter date he returned to Norristown and engaged in the wall paper and painting business. This enterprise prospered in his hands, and to it he has given the greater part of his attention from that to the present time.

In politics Mr. Perry is an active Republican, and has served three years as councilman from the eighth ward. He is vice president and one of the directors of Charity hospital, Norristown, and was one of the incorporators, and now vice president and director of the Consumers Ice company of the same place. In religion Mr. Perry is a Presbyterian, and in addition to this is connected with a number of well known fraternal organizations, among which are Curtis Lodge No. 239, Independent Order of Odd Fellows; Charity Lodge No. 190, Free and Accepted Masons; Norristown Chapter No. 190, Royal Arch Masons; and Hutchinson Commandery No. 32, Knights Templar. He is also connected with the Improved Order of Heptasophs, and with Zook Post No, 11, Grand Army of the Republic.

On August 22, 1867, Mr. Perry was united in marriage with Caroline C. Quarterman, a native of Georgia, and a daughter of Thomas Quarterman. To Mr. and Mrs. Perry have been born four children, of whom three died in infancy. The only one who arrived at the age of maturity is Dr. Charles F. Perry, a practicing physician, located at Scranton, Pennsylvania.

Samuel Perry, father of the subject of this sketch, was a nail cutter by trade, and spent the early part of his life at Bridgeton, New Jersey, and in Philadelphia. About 1835 he removed to Norristown and passed the remainder of his life in Montgomery county, dying in 1847, at the age of forty-seven years. He was a man of ordinary education and quiet reserved manner. In politics a Republican, and in religion he was a member of the Methodist church, which latter he served as trustee for many years. He was also a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows of Philadelphia. In 1822 he married Isabella Wilson, a daughter of Robert and Naomi Wilson, of West Creek, Cape May county, New Jersey. To them was born a family of eight children, four sons and four daughters: John R., Charles, William, Eliza G., wife of George H. Jones, of Weatherly,

Pennsylvania; Mary Ann, Sarah C., wife of Jesse H. Bringhurst, of Philadelphia; Margaret S., and R. Wilson.

Mrs. Isabella Perry died in June, 1882, in her eighty-fifth year.

AMOS L. ALBERTSON, a prominent business man and the president of the Norristown Glass company, is a son of Jacob Morton and Sarah Pim (Lee) Albertson, and was born at Norristown, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, October 14, 1854. The Albertson family traces its trans-atlantic ancestry back to Amsterdam, Holland, from which the first American member of the family came over in the ship *Fox*, arriving at New York, September, 1640. From this Holland ancestor was descended Jacob Albertson, senior, whose wife was a descendant of Cadwallader Roberts, of Wales, who came to Gwynedd in 1693. About the year 1800 Jacob Albertson purchased from Joseph Potts the farm in Plymouth township, which has been known ever since as the old Albertson homestead. His son, Jacob Albertson, was born on this farm, passed his life as a farmer, and his remains were interred at Plymouth Meeting graveyard. He was an old line Whig in politics, and married Martha Livezey, by whom he had ten children. His fifth child, Jacob Morton Albertson, was born May 5, 1826, and received his education in a day school and at the Westtown boarding school. At twenty-two years of age he became interested in conveyancing, and afterwards studied with his uncle, Lewis Jones, an expert surveyor and conveyancer. In 1850 he removed to Norristown, and the following year was elected surveyor of the borough. From that time forward Mr. Albertson was successful in all his business undertakings, and in 1857 established a private banking business into which, in 1875, he admitted his sons, William E. and Amos L., under the firm name of J. M. Albertson & Sons. In 1889 the Albertson Banking company was changed into an incorporated organization, under the name of the Albertson Trust and Safe Deposit company. In addition to banking, he purchased in 1870, the Star Glass works, whose capacity at a later date he increased by the erection of a second factory. He was also largely interested in real estate, and aided in many business enterprises by which his borough was benefitted. He was an active Republican, and served for several years as a member of the board of prison inspectors. He was a member of the Society of Friends, and died June 19, 1889, aged sixty-three years. His remains are interred in Plymouth Meeting cemetery. In 1852 Mr. Albertson wedded Sarah P. Lee, of Exeter, Berks county, whose English ancestor, Anthony Lee, took up and settled on a tract of six hundred acres of land in that county by survey of October 10, 1716. Mrs. Albertson died October 11, 1889. To Mr. and Mrs. Albertson were born five children: William E., treasurer of the Albertson Trust and the Star Glass companies; Amos L., subject; Mary A., wife of P. Frank Hunter, assistant treasurer of the Pennsylvania Railroad company; Martha A., wife of Abner U. Howard, of Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, who is vice president of the Albertson Trust company, and secretary of the Pittsburg Plate Glass company; and Lizzie P., wife of Edward S. Perott, of Yonkers, New York.

Amos L. Albertson was reared at Norristown, received his education in the West-

town boarding school and Tremont seminary, and then engaged in his present business, the manufacture of glass. He is now president of the Norristown Glass company and a director of the Albertson Trust and Deposit company. He is also a large real estate owner. Mr. Albertson is a Republican in politics, and has always given his party a hearty support. He is active, prompt and energetic, and gives careful and intelligent management to all his various business enterprises.

On September 25, 1890, Amos L. Albertson wedded Kate Longaker, a daughter of George W. Longaker, of Norristown.

JESSE S. CRESSMAN, a prosperous merchant at Sumneytown, this county, is a son of Jesse and Lena (Triesback) Cressman, and was born March 4, 1853, at Zieglersville, this county. Jesse Cressman was one of a family of the following children: Mrs. Frances Dannehower; Mrs. Nace; and Jesse, father, who learned the trade of a shoemaker, and during the early part of his life followed that trade at Tylersport, but for thirty years followed it at Zieglersville. For thirty years he was gate keeper at Zieglersville for the Green Lane and Sumneytown turnpike. He was a Democrat and an official member of the Lutheran church. His marriage to Lena Triesback resulted in the birth of five sons and four daughters: Henry, Mahlon, Kate Burke, Sarah, deceased; William, Mary, Jacob, John, and Jesse.

Jesse S. Cressman attended the public schools at Zieglersville and Ursinus college. Leaving school and entering upon a course of independent action on his own account, he taught school three terms, and after this for six months was engaged in the bakery business at Boyertown. In 1876 he came to Sumneytown and entered the store of Harvey Barndt, as clerk, and remained in his employ until March 13, 1884, when he became a partner in the business, under the firm name of Barndt & Cressman. They conduct a first-class general store, occupying two floors, fifty by twenty-five feet, heavily stocked. He is a Democrat, and a member of Green Lane Castle No. 202, Knights of the Golden Eagle; Perkiomen Lodge No. 267, I. O. O. F; and Pinta Lodge, Knights of Pythias, and of the Lutheran church at Sumneytown, of which he has been deacon eight years, and superintendent of the Sunday-school for eighteen years. He is interested in the following Building and Loan associations: E. C. Tyson B. & L. A., of Philadelphia; the Excelsior, of Norristown; and the National, of Washington, D. C.

He wedded Fannie Hoffman, a daughter of Rev. Andrew Hoffman, and two children, Forest J., and Annie S. bless their marriage relation.

GEORGE F. COLEMAN, one of the prominent and leading business men of Norristown, is a son of Nicholas and Rebecca (Wiseman) Coleman, and was born in the city of Philadelphia in the year 1839. In the early settlement of Pennsylvania, the pioneer ancestors of the Coleman family in this country, came from Wales. And among the earliest descendants was Nicholas Coleman, the paternal grandfather of George F. Coleman, of Norristown. Nicholas Coleman, who is mentioned in Westcott's history of Philadelphia, a commissioned officer in Proctor's Artillery and

served under Washington throughout the Revolutionary war. He passed through all the sufferings of Valley Forge and participated in all the hard battles of his regiment. He received wounds in the battles of Brandywine and Germantown, and died from the effects of one of them in 1801. Nicholas Coleman was born in 1745, and spent his entire life in Philadelphia. He was actively engaged for many years as a manufacturer, and his son Nicholas Coleman (father) was born in Philadelphia in 1801, where he resided until his death in January, 1858. He was largely a self-educated man, whose business ability won for him position and success. He was one of the first wagon manufacturers in his native city and conducted a business on Front street below Girard avenue. He controlled an extensive business and made the first carts that were shipped from this country to South America, where they were used for local transportation in the coffee fields He was successively a Whig and Republican, but never held any official position, although once offered the nomination for the city treasurership, which he was prompt to decline. He was a Friend although he married outside the Society, and contributed financially towards the organization of Colonel Small's regiment during the war with Mexico. He wedded Rebecca Wiseman, a daughter of the late Samuel Wiseman, and to this union were born fourteen children, six of whom still survive.

George F. Coleman received his elementary education in the grammar school of Philadelphia, from which he was withdrawn at thirteen years of age on account of delicate health. Afterward he attended Roach's academy where he graduated in surveying and civil engineering. Subsequently he took the full course in Crittendon's Commercial college. Leaving college he entered the office of N. Coleman and Son, which firm then consisted of his father and eldest son Robert. His father retiring in 1856, he became the junior partner, under the firm name of Simons, Coleman and Company, founders of the large wagon works on Front street and at Second and Lehigh avenues. In 1860 he and his brother sold out their interests to Mr. Simons, and George F. turned his attention to dealing in stocks. After some years of experience in the stock markets, he engaged in the worsted yarn commission business, then an industry in its infancy. In this new enterprise he associated with him his younger brother Joseph Coleman, who was well acquainted with the woolen business, and they operated under the name of Coleman and Brother. They first located at No. 110 and afterwards removed to 212 Chestnut street, where the old house of Coleman and Brother still remains. Mr. Coleman's experience in the stock markets of the country and especially in Wall street, New York, was very valuable to him in the prosecution of his commission enterprise, which enterprise he successfully continued for twenty years. At the end of that time in 1893, on account of impaired hearing he retired from the firm and became interested in the manufacture of woolen goods, in which line of business he made large investments at Norristown and elsewhere. He was soon made president of the Norristown Woolen company, which position he still holds in addition to being a director in the Conshohocken Woolen company.

On May 14, 1860, Mr. Coleman was united in marriage with Josephine Aitkin, a daughter of Joseph Aitkin, and a great-granddaughter of Robert Aitkin, who published the first Bible in the English language in

A. R. Place

America, and the first magazine issued in Philadelphia.

Mr. and Mrs. Coleman were blessed with three children, two sons and a daughter: Joseph Aitkin Coleman, who is married to Margaret Noble, a daughter of Rev. William Noble, and is a member of the firm of Coleman and Brother at 212 Chestnut street, Philadelphia; Rebecca Coleman, wedded Gilbert R. Fox, Esq., of Norristown; and William S.

George F. Coleman came to Norristown about the year 1878, and resides at "Firmere" on north Powell street, one of the finest residences in the city. The grounds are tasteful and beautiful, consisting of a large and well kept lawn ornamented with choice trees and rare shrubbery through which inviting paths and graceful drives have been laid out with care and due regard to pleasing effect.

Mr. Coleman is not only an enterprising representative but is also a very prosperous business man. His firm was the first to introduce to the manufacturers of the United States the French system of spun worsted yarn. The yarn in this country was first spun at the Conshohocken Woolen mills and rapidly came into general favor. In addition to this, Coleman and Brother established the first commission house in the United States for the sale of worsted yarns and in ten years their sales increased one thousand per cent.

Mr. Coleman is a Republican in politics but gives his time chiefly to his various business enterprises and has always subjected himself to rigorous and exacting business principles. He is a member of the Manufacturers' club of Philadelphia and a number of other organizations of Philadelphia, but his impaired hearing prevents him from active participation.

ALBERT R. PLACE, a promising lawyer of the Montgomery county bar and a member of the legal firm of Hallman & Place, is a son of Israel and Hannah (Rosenberger) Place, and was born June 1, 1857, in Upper Providence township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania. His parents were of German ancestry, and both descended from old families well known in eastern Pennsylvania, having resided for several generations in the United States.

Henry G. Place, paternal grandfather of the subject of this sketch, was a prominent citizen of this county and a personal acquaintance of Governor Francis R. Shunk, who occupied the executive chair of Pennsylvania from 1845 to his death in 1848. One of the sons of Henry G. Place was Israel Place (father), the latter of whom was born July 5, 1819, at the old homestead in Upper Providence township. After receiving a common school education, he learned the carpenter trade, which occupation he followed successfully for many years. He now resides in Hatfield township with his oldest daughter, Sarah A. Gotwals, retired from all active affairs and in feeble health. He was a Whig in early life, but became a Republican upon the organization of that party, and always took an interest in political matters, though he never aspired to or held any important political office. In religion he is a member of the Reformed church, and in 1843 married Hannah Rosenberger, a daughter of Abraham Rosenberger, also of the township of Upper Providence, by which union he had a family of seven children, two of whom are deceased. Those living are Sarah A., wife of Jacob C. Gotwals; Hannah, married to Anthony B. Schultz; Mary, the wife of Wilson Schultz; J. Warren and Albert R.

Mrs. Hannah Place is now deceased, having died in 1885, aged sixty-five years.

Albert R. Place was reared in Upper Providence township until his seventeenth year, receiving his education in the academic department of Ursinus college at Collegeville, Pa., and at Washington Hall Collegiate institute, Trappe, Pa. After completing his studies, he engaged in teaching, which he followed continuously until July, 1885, at which time he commenced reading law in the office of Judge Aaron S. Swartz at Norristown. During the time he devoted to teaching, Mr. Place was principal of the schools at Lansdale for a period of four years, and held a like position in the Hatboro schools for three years, and received at the hands of E. E. Higbee, State superintendent, a permanent teacher's certificate for this State. He was admitted to the bar in October, 1887, and during the winter following taught commercial law at Peirce College of Business in the city of Philadelphia. He then began the practice of law in Montgomery county, having his office at Lansdale, and has remained in the practice of his profession to the present time. In April, 1889, he formed a law partnership with Ellwood L. Hallman, of Royersford, and these gentlemen have practiced together up to this time. They have conducted and still enjoy a prosperous general law business, and practice in all the courts of Montgomery and Chester counties, and also in the supreme court of the State of Pennsylvania.

Politically Mr. Place is a staunch Republican, but has refrained from participation in politics, preferring to devote himself strictly to business in the line of his profession. He has served as a member of the school board of Lansdale for a number of years, is counsel for the boroughs of Lansdale and Souderton, and also is solicitor of the North Wales National bank of North Wales, of which he was one of the founders and first directors. He was also one of the organizers of the North Penn Building and Loan association of Lansdale, and was its first president. Possessed of ability and judgment, his management of these enterprises has proved successful. He is also vice president and one of the founders of the "Schissler College of Business," located at Norristown, Pa.

In religion Mr. Place was for a number of years connected with the Abington Presbyterian church, but later became a member of St. John's Reformed church at Lansdale. He is also a member of the Masonic order, with which he has been connected since 1893. His business and professional career has been successful, and being founded on the corner-stones of honesty, integrity, ability, and a determination to do thoroughly whatever he undertook, his career furnishes an example for the emulation of young men.

On April 11, 1883, Mr. Place was married to M. Alice Frederick, of Lansdale, Pa. Their union has been blessed by the birth of one child, a daughter named Kate Helen, who was born February 7, 1886.

AARON FOX is the leading contractor and builder of Pennsburg and vicinity. The father of Aaron Fox was Israel Fox, and his mother's maiden name was Catharine Nace. He was born October 31, 1844, in Upper Hanover township, this county. His grandfather on the paternal side of the family was John Fox. His father was born in Upper Hanover township and was one of a large family of children. He

learned the trade of a carpenter and followed that craft all his life. He found his political affinity in his support of the Democratic party, whilst in religious matters he worshipped at the shrine of St. Luke's Lutheran church. His marriage to Catharine Nace, a daughter of Peter Nace, of Sumneytown, resulted in the birth of eleven children: Jacob, John, Samuel, Aaron, Kate, Mary, Elizabeth, Leah, Angeline, Sarah, Matilda.

Aaron Fox learned the trade and became a carpenter under the direction of Joseph Hallaway, with whom he remained until 1872, when he took up the work as a contractor and builder on his own account. He employs a large force of men and has done considerable work in his line of a highly creditable character, among which he prefers to mention the large railroad hotel for Preston Moore, of Moore's Windsor hotel, in Philadelphia.

Mr. Fox is a Democrat politically, and is strongly of the opinion that a Jacksonian enforcement of Jeffersonian principles would bring prosperity to the land and greatly ameliorate the condition of the working classes.

He takes a lively interest in the cause of education and the common schools of Montgomery county can count few more ardent friends than he. He has served as a school director in the borough of Pennsburg for six years. He is a member of the Lutheran church at Niantic, and is interested as a stockholder in the Goshenhoppen Fire Insurance company at Pennsburg.

His marriage in 1871 to Rebecca Hess resulted in the following issue: Horace, Oscar, Rosa, Andora, Elmer C., Alice, Robert, Morris, Adeline, and Lottie, and three that died in infancy.

Mr. Fox is a master of his trade and as an artisan is trustworthy and reliable. He has won his success by close attention to his business and the exercise of an indomitable courage.

ISAAC W. SMITH, proprietor of the well known Woolen mills of Bridgeport, that bear his name, is the second son and only surviving child of Aaron and Mary (Watkin) Smith, and was born in Lower Merion township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, July 29, 1839. The Smith family is of Welsh descent, and Aaron Smith, the father of the subject of this sketch, was a shoemaker, of Lower Merion township. He also owned and tilled a small farm until his death, which occurred in 1847, at fifty years of age. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and a Whig and Republican in politics. Mr. Smith wedded Sarah Free, who died, and some time after her death married Mary Watkin, who was a daughter of Enoch Watkin, of Delaware county, and passed away in 1871, when in the sixty-ninth year of her age.

By his first marriage Mr. Smith had four children: William F., John Albin, Sarah A., widow of Joseph Shaw, and one that died in infancy. To the second union were born four children, three sons and a daughter: George and Mary E., who both died in infancy; Isaac W., (subject); and Aaron W., who died in his twenty-sixth year.

Isaac W. Smith was reared in Lower Merion township and received his education in the common schools. At the age of twelve years he entered the carpet yarn factory of his brother-in-law, Joseph Shaw, which was then on Mill Creek.

After completing his apprenticeship he

removed with Mr. Shaw to Valley Forge, where he served as manager of the factory started there until Shaw's death in 1863. He then managed the business for Mr. Shaw's widow for nine years, at the end of which time he leased the mill. When his lease expired he purchased the machinery and operated the factory up to 1882. In that year he disposed of his property at Valley Forge and became a resident of Norristown. In the early part of the succeeding year, 1883, he purchased ground on Third street above Dekalb at Bridgeport and near the Philadelphia and Reading railroad tract, where he erected his present Woolen mills and removed his family to Bridgeport. His main mill, two stories high, is fifty-six by one hundred and twenty feet in dimensions on the inside, and an addition three stories in height with inside dimensions of forty-five by seventy-five feet has been added in conection with numerous out-buildings. The chief products of his mills are cotton and wool mixed and all wool cassimers, for men's wear and ladies' cloakings.

In 1865, Mr. Smith wedded Mary L. Grow, a daughter of George Grow, of Lower Merion township. To their union have been born seven children: Joseph, who died in 1891; Isaac A., chief book keeper and assistant manager of Smith's Woolen mills; Mary W., Emma L., Louis Y., J. Futhey, and Leslie, who died in infancy.

In politics Mr. Smith is a Republican and has served as a school director and member of the town council. He is a member of the First Presbyterian church, Norristown, of which he has been a trustee for twelve years. He is a member of the Masonic bodies of Norristown. While active and prominent in his own especial line of manufacturing, he is also interested in other local matters, and gives much time and attention to all measures for municipal growth and improvement, at Norristown and Bridgeport.

He is a stockholder in a cotton mill at Piedmont, Alabama; and a stockholder and director in the Bridgeport Water Company, and the Norristown Gas, Steel and Electric Light companies. He is a director of the Norristown Title, Trust and Safe Deposit Co., and a member of the Prison board. Mr. Smith was the chief promoter of the Bridgeport division of the Norristown Passenger street railway. He was treasurer of the company up to the time of its substitution of electricity for horses as a motive power.

REV. THOMAS F. SHANNON, the present pastor of St. Patrick's Catholic church of Norristown, Pennsylvania, is a son of Thomas and Harriet (Coghlan) Shannon, and was born in County Clare, Ireland, March 27, 1844. When he was three years of age his father died, and five years later the family came to Philadelphia. There Thomas F. Shannon attended the city and Parochial schools for some time and later entered St. Charles college, Ellicott City, Maryland, where he remained for one year. At the end of that time he entered St. Charles seminary at Glen Riddle, in Delaware county, this State, and in September, 1868, was admitted to St. Charles Theological seminary, at Eighteenth and Race streets, Philadelphia. Here he pursued his philosophical and theological studies, finishing the prescribed course at the new Seminary of St. Charles Borromeo, located at Overbrook, this county. On October 18, 1872, he was ordained to the

Thomas F. Shannon

Jacob C. Salter

priesthood at Overbrook by the late Archbishop Wood, of Philadelphia. After his ordination he was appointed successively assistant at the Church of the Annunciation, Philadelphia; St. Ann's church, Port Richmond; Church of the Sacred Heart, Philadelphia; and St. Michael's church, of the same city. In May, 1879, he was transferred to the Philadelphia Cathedral, filling the position of assistant for seven and one-half years, or up to October 14, 1886. During the latter year he was appointed pastor of St. Patrick's church, Norristown, succeeding Rev. Father John Monahan. During his pastorate in connection with St. Patrick's church, Rev. T. F. Shannon has labored faithfully and uninterruptedly for the intellectual advancement and spiritual good of his people. Soon after he assumed charge of St. Patrick's parish the membership of the church increased to such an extent that the congregation was divided in 1892, and the result was the establishment of St. Augustine's church in the southern part of Bridgeport, with Rev. Michael J. Gately as pastor. During Father Shannon's administration a suit entered by his predecessor against the Pennsylvania Railroad company for damages in depreciating the value of the church property at Norristown was decided in favor of the church.

Father Shannon has done much for the betterment of his people in the way of church and educational facilities. In March, 1894, he purchased ground at the corner of DeKalb and Chestnut streets, as a site for a new church, a parochial school, pastoral residence and convent. The first parochial school at Norristown was opened in September, 1875, in the basement of the present church building, but in a short time it will be removed to the new parochial school building erected under the supervision of Father Shannon at the corner of Chestnut and Green streets. This school structure is a beautiful stone and brick building, three stories in height and furnished in modern style. The success of the enterprise has been brought about by the incessant efforts of Father Shannon, who has been remarkably active as well as successful in promoting the educational interests of his parish.

Rev. Father Shannon in his personal relations and address is a man who commands the highest admiration. He possesses a pleasing personality, is a man of refined and educated tastes and in his every effort to promote the public good has seemingly met with a deserved success.

JACOB C. SOTTER is one of the six brothers—Henry, John (deceased), Frederick, Ferdinand, Jacob, and Philip—whose father, Frederick Sotter, emigrated to this country from Coblentz, on the Rhine, Germany, and setted at Moselem, Berks county, Pennsylvania. There Frederick Sotter planted a vineyard and industriously carried on the manufacture of wine for a number of years. While thus engaged he married Philobena Muschbach. Later he sold out and removed to Reading, this State, where he secured employment at his trade of machinist in the Union Boiler works of that city. He was a good mechanic and was held in high esteem by his employers. Later he was smitten by typhoid fever which resulted in his death.

Jacob C. Sotter, the fifth son, was born December 17, 1856, at Reading, Pennsylvania. He attended the public schools of that city for a time, but on account of his father's death was compelled to leave school

and seek employment. He became an apprentice in the Union Boiler works of Reading, where he spent four years in learning the trade in all its branches, and afterward worked in that establishment for a period of five years. He then worked several years in the boiler works of Pawling & Gahall, Lewistown, this State, and afterwards entered the extensive boiler and engine manufacturing works of Frick & Company, at Waynesboro, Franklin county. There he married Lydia Krause, the daughter of a well known and thrifty farmer of Waynesboro, Franklin county, who died three months after her marriage. By this time the skill and dexterity of Mr. Sotter had become widely known and he was recalled to the Union Boiler works at Reading.

In the spring of 1879 Mr. Sotter formed a partnership with his three brothers, Henry, Frederick and Ferdinand, and they leased a small building at Pottstown and founded the Mechanics' Boiler works of that city. The brothers were all expert boiler makers, and with four hands besides themselves, they began a business which has rapidly grown until it has assumed very creditable proportions. The most careful attention was given to every detail and they were compelled from time to enlarge their quarters, until, in 1886, it became necessary to remove the plant to a more favorable location. They purchased six acres of land in the western part of Pottstown and erected a large and commodious brick boiler shop with the necessary stock and storage houses. The plant is situated between the Reading and Pennsylvania railroads, and has direct communication with both. Their growing business has made it necessary to enlarge these buildings, and the boiler shop is now eighty by two hundred and sixty feet in dimensions, with a large machine shop, flanging shop, storage and warehouse buildings, all substantially built. The works are equipped with the latest and most improved machinery and labor-saving devices, many of which have been constructed under Mr. Sotter's personal care and supervision. The plant is said to be second to none in the State, and the products here manufactured enjoy a well earned reputation in all parts of the United States. From eighty-five to one hundred men are employed in the establishment, which is now owned by Jacob C. Sotter and his brothers, Henry and Philip.

Jacob C. Sotter is also an inventor of note. In 1885 he secured a patent for an automatic steam house heating boiler, which is now in use in a large number of homes, churches, schools and railway buildings. In 1887 he was granted a patent on an adjustable radiator carpet foot which filled a long felt want and was extensively adopted. In 1895 he obtained a patent on a feed water heater and purifier, which although just put on the market, promises to be one of the most successful devices of its kind. Numerous sales have already been made and Mr. Sotter avers that the aparatus has exceeded his most sanguine expectations.

For a number of years Mr. Sotter has identified himself with such projects as were calculated to further the best interests of Pottstown. He has erected five substantial and commodious dwellings, and is one of the originators and a director in a number of enterprises. Among which are the Pottstown Light Heat and Power company; the Pottstown Street Passenger Railway company; the Bramcote Land company, of Pottstown; and the Columbian

Ellwood Roberts.

Paper company, of Buena Vista, Virginia. He is also a director in the National Iron bank of Pottstown.

In 1879 Mr. Sotter was married to Emma Kirmse, a daughter of August Kirmse, a well known shoe merchant of the city of Reading. In his religious faith Mr. Sotter is a consistent Lutheran and holds membership in Emanuel Lutheran church of Pottstown.

ELLWOOD ROBERTS, born at Wilmington, Delaware, first month, 1846, twenty second day, is descended from Welsh Friends. His ancestor, Edward Roberts, who married in 1714, Mary Bolton, (born in Cheltenham, eleventh month, fourth day, 1687) was one of the early settlers in Richland, Bucks county, now Quakertown. In 1716, he left Byberry, Philadelphia, on horseback with his wife and little daughter, and proceeded through the woods with all his worldly goods to Richland. Here he erected a temporary dwelling in which they lived until 1728. Edward and Mary Roberts had seven children, one of whom was David. The wife's parents were Everard and Elizabeth Bolton, who emigrated from England and settled in Cheltenham in 1682. The ancestry of the Boltons is traced back to the Lord of Bolton, the lineal descendant of the Saxon Earls of Murcia. In 1753 David Roberts married Phoebe Lancaster. Among their children were: Amos, David, Nathan and Evan. The first named married Margaret Thomas, also of Welsh-Quaker descent, in and under the care of Richland monthly meeting, eleventh month, thirtieth day, 1775. The original certificate, signed by forty-six persons, is now in the possession of Ellwood Roberts.

This document is all the more valuable from the circumstance that Amos Roberts kept the family record on the back. Here are entered in regular order, the names of nine children and the date of their birth. They were: Mordecai, Hugh, Andrew, Mary, Alice, Phoebe, Margaret, Deborah and George, all of whom grew to manhood or womanhood, except George, the youngest. Of these children, Hugh, the grandfather of Ellwood Roberts, was born second month, sixteenth day, 1782. The parents had left Richland soon after their marriage and their children were born and reared at Branchtown, near Philadelphia.

Hugh married Sarah Spencer, daughter of Nathan and Rachel Pim Spencer, who lived on a large neighboring farm. The Spencers were descendants of Samuel Spencer, who came from Baradoes to Philadelphia, late in the seventeenth century. He left two sons, Samuel and William. The former, who was Sarah's great grandfather, settled in Upper Dublin, the brother in Bucks county. Each left numerous descendants.

Sarah Spencer Roberts was a woman of marked intelligence, and was possessed of a retentive memory and excellent conversational powers. Her husband died in 1821, but she lived until 1874, to the age of eighty-six years. Among their offspring was Hugh Roberts, born eighth month, fifth day, 1821. He grew to manhood an excellent type of his race, of fine presence, honorable instincts, superior intelligence and the highest integrity. An earnest and sincere Friend, he trusted in the Inner Light, as an infallible guide to all who listened to its revealings. His life, spent in honest industry and crowned by the success which his faithfulness to duty deserved, ended at Norristown, eighth month, twenty-third day, 1894. He learned the trade of a

miller, with his elder brother, Spencer Roberts, at the old homestead, the mill, long since torn down, being among the oldest in Pennsylvania. In 1839 he went to Wilmington, Del., and was employed for a dozen years at Brandywine mills. Here, in 1842, he married Alice A. Gallagher, of a well known family of Scotch-Irish descent in that city.

Their children were: Charles H., an attorney at Kansas City, Missouri; Ellwood, and Mary R., wife of Samuel Livezey, all of Norristown. Their mother, a woman of energy and industry, whose principal care was to bring up her children properly, still survives. The family left the vicinity of Wilmington in 1861, locating, after two or three years, in Gwynedd, on a farm which was subsequently divided into several smaller tracts and sold, new buildings being erected on each. They came to Norristown in 1882.

Ellwood Roberts grew up in the midst of farm duties, having few advantages as to attendance at school and never entered any of the higher institutions of learning. His education is largely the result of home culture and that gained in fourteen years spent in teaching, mostly in Friend's and public schools in or near Philadelphia. In 1878 he married Mary L. Carter, of Mickleton, New Jersey. They have four children: Howard, Alice R., William H., and Mary C. Roberts.

Having manifested a decided literary taste from early life, and having written from time to time many poems and prose articles for various periodicals, including the Norristown *Herald*, he became attached to the latter as a member of its editorial staff in 1883. It is almost superfluous to dwell at length upon his labors in this position, so well are they known to the community in which he lives. In conjunction with his father, he engaged in building enterprises in Norristown, and is still extensively interested in real estate. An ardent Republican, he has never sought official distinction and regards office seeking as one of the worst features of popular government. Deeply attached to the principles of Friends, although not regarding a strict adherence to antiquated forms of the Society as absolutely essential, he is a liberal and progressive thinker, a vigorous writer and an industrious worker. He is an active member of the Montgomery County Historical society and thoroughly devoted to the advancement of its interests.

A volume of his poems, "Lyrics of Quakerism," has just been issued from the press. It is a satisfaction to him to reflect that his half century of life has made an impress upon those around him. He bears a faithful testimony, as Friends phrase it, against intemperance, and looks forward with hope to the day when the liquor traffic shall be so restricted as to be incapable of mischief. He is also interested in obtaining equal rights for women and other needed reforms.

HENRY A. KNEULE, editor and business manager of the *Bauern Freund and Democrat*, of Pennsburg, is a son of Albrecht and Louise Elanora (Kraft) Kneule, and was born September 29, 1864, in Pennsburg, this county.

Henry A. Kneule attended the public schools of Pennsburg and East Greenville, and still further profited by attendance upon the Perkiomen seminary. Leaving school, he entered his father's newspaper office, where he learned the trade of a printer and remained with his father as a journeyman until the latter went to Norris-

town in May, 1881, since which time he has been associated with him as editor and business manager of the *Bauern Freund and Democrat.* This paper was established in 1827, and is the oldest German paper in Montgomery county. It is a wide awake and aggressive sheet, fearlessly and ably edited and is devoted to the local news, interests of the community at large and to the exposition of the principles and the promotion of the success of the Democratic party. In connection with the publication of the *Bauern Freund and Democrat*, they carry on a large and flourishing business as job and book printers. Mr. Kneule, as will be inferred, is a staunch Democrat, active and popular. He has shaped the policy of his paper after the same aggressive spirit, having the widest circulation in the county, and is deservedly popular. He served three years as a member of the county committee, and in 1885, under Cleveland's first administration, served as postmaster at Pennsburg, in which position he showed a high order of business talent, and administered the affairs of the office with efficiency and dispatch. He is a member of Pennsburg Lodge No. 334, I. O. O. F.; Pennsburg Encampment, I. O. O. F.; Castle No. 298, Knights of the Golden Eagle, and Lodge No. 231, Knights of Pythias.

On July 18, 1885, he wedded Mary Jane Kulp, a daughter of Henry Kulp, and four children bless their marriage: Elanora Louisa, Harry Albrecht, Eva Gertrude, and Mabel Alverta.

DR. ALLEN K. DAVIDHEISER, one of the youngest and most successful veterinary surgeons of Pottstown and Montgomery county, is a son of Reuben R. and Sarah (Kepner) Davidheiser, and was born in Pottsgrove township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, November 5, 1871. Reuben R. Davidheiser is of German descent, and was born in Montgomery county, September 21, 1841. Mr. Davidheiser was variously employed until 1887, when he established his present brick yards at Pottstown and West Pottstown. As a brick manufacturer he does quite an extensive and remunerative business.

In addition to brick manufacturing, he with his son, Dr. Allen K., opened an extensive livery, boarding and exchange stable in Pottstown in 1894, under the firm name of R. Davidheiser & Son. This stable is well supplied with teams and saddle horses to accommodate the public, and is liberally patronized. Part of this stable is also used as an infirmary by the junior member of the firm, Dr. Allen K., where he has constantly a number of sick and lame animals under his care and treatment.

Mr. Davidheiser is a good business man and an active supporter of the Democratic party. In 1865 he married Sarah Kepner, who was a daughter of Abraham Kepner, and a native of Montgomery county. To this union have been born four sons and eight daughters: Wilson, Sallie, Katie, Dr. Allen K., Mary, Olivia, Anna, Agnes, Howard, Mazie, Bertha, and Frederick. Of these children, Sallie, Katie, and Mazie are deceased.

Dr. Allen K. Davidheiser was reared in Pottsgrove township, and attended the public schools and Professor John W. Arm's academy at Pottstown. After completing his three year academic course he engaged as clerk in his brother Wilson's butchering establishment in Pottstown. He remained with his brother for one year and then commenced a course of veterinary studies, which he pursued for some time under the instruc-

tion of Dr. E. G. Gilbert. He then entered the New York College of Veterinary Surgeons and school of comparative medicine, from which he was graduated March 18, 1892. After graduation he immediately returned to Pottstown, where he has been engaged in the active practice of his profession ever since.

Although a young man, he has been remarkably successful, and has built up a large and lucrative practice in Montgomery and parts of the adjoining counties of Chester, Berks, and Bucks. He is a member of the Alumni association of the New York college of veterinary surgeons, and is a close and careful student in the line of his work. Dr. Davidheiser is a Democrat in politics, and has been a member of the Emanuel Lutheran church since 1888. He is a member of U. S. Grant Council No. 352, Junior Order of United American Mechanics, of Pottstown, Pennsylvania.

GEORGE J. HUMBERT, vice president and general superintendent of the Norristown Steel company, is the eldest son of George W. and Rachel F. (Jackson) Humbert, and was born in the city of Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, on September 17, 1858.

The Humberts are of German extraction and rank with the early families of Western Pennsylvania, where various members have resided for several generations. They are connected with many leading families of the State. Andrew Humbert, paternal great-grandfather, came from Alsace-Loraine, was a soldier in the Revolutionary war, settled in Berks county in 1775, and removed thence to Beaver county, Pennsylvania, and finally to Pittsburg some time prior to the year 1800. He was by trade a tin and coppersmith, and married Margaret Long, of Cumberland county. Their family at his decease consisted of two sons and three daughters.

About 1822 Andrew Humbert visited Beaver, and on his return trip the stage, which was his conveyance at that time, was upset on Beaver Hill, and he was so seriously hurt by accident that his death took place within a few succeeding weeks. His son George, paternal grandfather of the subject, was eight years old at the time of the death of his father, and during his boyhood was apprenticed to learn the trade of blacksmithing and engine building. He succeeded in becoming a skilled and efficient mechanic, and until his death in 1877, was actively connected with the iron and steel industry in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania. He acquired a very considerable competency and was actively identified with local, political and industrial affairs.

Politically he was successively a Whig and Republican. Notwithstanding the fact that his opportunities of acquiring an education were very limited, he was a man of marked business ability and possessed a rare good judgment.

In March, 1835, he was married to Jane Martin, a daughter of Mary Hemphill and Robert Martin, of Lisbon, Pennsylvania. By this marriage they had four sons and six daughters, of which three sons and two daughters still survive. Mary E. died of fever in the year 1865, contracted while in the Christian commission service of the Federal army. The Union soldiers have since erected a monument over her grave in Uniondale cemetery, Allegheny City, and the ladies organized and christened a G. A. R. Post in her honor.

Mary Hemphill, maternal great-grand-

mother of George J. Humbert, wife of Robert Martin, had two sons and two daughters, and after the decease of her first husband, Robert Martin, she brought her family to Pittsburg, and later married John Oberly, of Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, by whom she had two sons and one daughter. The eldest son, Hon. John H. Oberly, became a resident of Cairo, Illinois, where he established and published a Democratic paper, and was for several years railroad commissioner of that State. During President Cleveland's first term he was appointed Indian commissioner, and subsequently served as a member of the United States Civil Service Commission, holding his appointment under both the Democratic and Republican administrations.

Before the war of the Rebellion, the Oberlys settled on a plantation in the State of Arkansas, but Grandmother Oberly, being an ardent Unionist, was compelled to seek a section more in sympathy with her political and social ideas. Accordingly they packed their effects in wagons and with her refuge children started for Cairo, Illinois. She herself rode on horseback a distance of more than two hundred and fifty miles, which was a very remarkable feat for a woman at the age of sixty. She became blind in 1870 and died in 1885, in her ninety-fourth year, possessing her faculties in a wonderful degree to the last.

The eldest son of George Humbert was George W. Humbert, father of our subject. He was born in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, May 19, 1836, secured a good English education in the public schools, and afterwards took a course of business instruction. In 1856 he entered the employ of the Pittsburg, Fort Wayne and Chicago Railroad company in Pittsburg, where he remained until November, 1864, as assistant general freight agent. He was also agent for the recovery of lost freight and general baggage agent. Subsequent to 1864 he embarked in the oil business in Pittsburg and the West Indies for a number of years, and then went into the livestock business as a member of the firm of Donnelly, McNabb & Co., of East Liberty. Still later he organized several coal companies in Fayette county, this State, which are now in successful operation.

He was a firm supporter of the public schools, and at the first election held in the Sixteenth ward, Pittsburg, was elected a member of the school board, and by that body appointed a member of the central board of education. He had the honor of being one of the projectors and builders of the Pittsburg High school. For a period of three years prior to 1893 he resided in Montgomery county. He retired from active business in 1885, and now resides in Pittsburg. He was an ardent Republican, and in 1856 helped to organize that great party. He was a man of marked ability, a natural leader in his community, and was highly esteemed by all who knew him. In 1861, at the call of the President for men and money to carry on the war of the Rebellion, the government required his services on the railroad, and he was permitted to give a large share of his time during this exigency in raising troops and money. During September of the succeeding year he organized a company of the Fifteenth regiment, Pennsylvania volunteers, of which he was elected second lieutenant, and within three days after the company was recruited, marched to Antietam. His company was mustered in for two years and served until the close of the war. In June, 1857, he married Rachel F. Jackson, a daughter of Sarah Stanford and John Jackson, who was

born on July 8, 1836, in Lancaster county, this State. Her parents were born in England, belonged to a good family and came to the United States in 1826, shortly after which they settled in Lancaster county. Their family consisted of four sons and eight daughters, three sons and one daughter born in England, and the others in Lancaster county. John Jackson, maternal grandfather, was a good farmer and business man and highly regarded by his neighbors; he was a staunch Whig, firm in his political convictions, but had many friends and supporters in the opposition party. After the death of his wife he removed with his family to Milton, Pennsylvania, but in 1852 removed to a farm in Burrell township, Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, where he died in the same year at the age of sixty-three years.

George W. Humbert had the following named children: George J., Frank J., who died in young manhood; Homer J., Thomas J., William J., died in infancy; Jennie J., who died in Pottstown February 1, 1889; and Emma J.

George J. Humbert, the eldest son, was reared in his native city of Pittsburg, where he attended the public and high schools until his fifteenth year. He then entered the stock yards as assistant to his father and was engaged in the live stock business until 1878. In 1880 he entered the employ of the Bessimer Steel company of Pittsburg, as time keeper, and six months later became assistant general manager of their works at Homestead, now known as the Carnegie Steel company. He resigned that position in 1882, to assume charge of the steel department of the Colorado Coal and Iron company, at Pueblo, Colorado, where he remained until the summer of 1885. In 1886 he connected himself with Schoenberger & Company, of Pittsburg, as steel blower, and one year later became superintendent of the steel department of the Glascow Iron works at Pottstown, Pennsylvania. He afterwards occupied a similar position at the Bessimer steel department of the Chester Rolling mills, (now Wellman Steel company) at Thurlow, Pennsylvania. He held this position for a period of one year, and in May, 1890, came to Norristown, Pennsylvania, where he assisted in the organization of the Norristown Steel company and erected the works of that company. He was made vice president and general manager, and has ably and successfully conducted this important enterprise until it was merged into the American Steel Casting company, which latter concern he was mainly interested in organizing, being one of the charter members and director. Mr. Humbert is regarded as one of the best iron and steel operators in this section of the State.

During all his life, George J. Humbert has been an active and enthusiastic Republican, and while a resident of Colorado was nominated for a seat in the legislature of that State, and failed of election only by reason of his ineligibility under constitutional requirements.

In 1892 he was elected a school director of Plymouth township, which office he retained until his removal from the township. He is a member of Curtis Lodge No. 231, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and also of the Encampment I. O. O. F. He is likewise connected with Linwood Lodge No. 154, Ancient Order of United Workmen, and Washington Camp No. 114, Patriotic Order Sons of America.

On July 1, 1886, Mr. Humbert was married to Clara Voigt, a native of Pittsburg, and a daughter of William Voigt. To Mr. and Mrs. Humbert have been born two

Morgan R. Wilbs.

children, one son and one daughter: G. Vernon, born at Pottstown, Pennsylvania, July 14, 1888; and Elsie M., born at Norristown, Pennsylvania, March 4, 1892.

THE WILLS FAMILY have lived in Eastern Pennsylvania for nearly two centuries, the first of the name in this country being Michael Wills, who settled in Lower Merion township, Montgomery county. He came from the Emerald Isle, but the family were of English origin, as the name indicates, an ancestor having become a colonist in that island, it is supposed, in Cromwell's time. One of Michael Wills' sons, also named Michael, had, among other children, a son Michael Wills, Jr., who married Ann, daughter of Andrew and Elizabeth Keyser Wood, well known residents of Roxborough, Pa.

They had fourteen children, nine of whom grew to manhood or womanhood, the father dying January 15, 1829, and the mother April 29, 1832.

One of the sons, Andrew Wills, born June 18, 1798, was the father of Morgan R. Wills, the latter also one of fourteen children, nine of whom survive. Andrew Wills studied medicine, graduating at the University of Pennsylvania in 1825.

He married Sarah Hannum, November 12, 1826, and practiced medicine in Chester county for forty-six years. He died July 7, 1871, at Lionville, Pa.

Morgan Reese Wills was born in West Whiteland township, Chester county, Oct. 21, 1831. In 1847, having received a common school training, he entered the office of the West Chester *Jeffersonian* to learn the trade of a printer. Later he came to Norristown, where he has since resided with the exception of a few months spent in Springfield, Illinois. He worked at his trade in Norristown, first on the *Register*, then owned by Samuel D. Patterson. In 1859, he opened a book-store on Main street, combining job printing with his other business.

It is through his successful management of the Norristown *Herald*, one of the oldest and most influential newspapers in Pennsylvania, that Mr. Wills is most widely known. In 1864 he purchased a half interest in the paper from Robert Iredell. Several changes occurred in the firm, leaving him in 1869 sole proprietor of the establishment. He erected the building in which the *Herald* is now published, enlarging it from time to time in the rear, the plant being extended until it comprises not only a complete outfit for the publication of a daily newspaper, but an extensive job department and book bindery as well.

Recognizing the necessity for a daily issue to keep up with the progress of the times, Mr. Wills, on December 20, 1869, began the enterprise. The daily edition was a success from the beginning, and soon took a high rank among the newspapers of the State, which it has ever since maintained. It is everywhere recognized as one of the leading exponents and moulders of public opinion on the various topics of the day.

Mr. Wills is an enterprising and eminently successful newspaper manager. He has the good judgment required to cater to the public taste in regard to news and general information, and he takes care that the *Herald* shall be in the front rank of progressive modern journalism. The paper is a model of perfection as regards literary and mechanical execution; it has opinions on every party and public question that presents itself, and its editor believes in giving

utterance to them in vigorous and expressive English. Few papers in the country are more widely quoted.

Mr. Wills is one of the most progressive and public spirited citizens of Norristown. Liberal in his views, he has aimed constantly, in the management of his paper, and in every other way, to advance the interests of Norristown, and of Montgomery county.

An active Republican, he has rendered the most efficient support to the principles of that party, the *Herald* having been a potent factor in the political revolution which redeemed the town and county from Democratic rule. In the discussion of every public topic of importance, national, state and local, Mr. Wills takes an active part, which the columns of his paper, local and editorial, reflect from day to day. It is his aim to make the paper, as far as it is possible, an accurate history of the time.

He believes it to be the province of a daily newspaper to serve the interests of the community in which it is published, and he has faithfully adhered to that idea throughout the whole of his journalistic career.

In his domestic relations, Mr. Wills was equally fortunate. September 6, 1860, he married Mary H., daughter of Daniel H. and Mary W. Dager, of Whitemarsh township. They had two children, Mary D., wife of Harrington Fitzgerald, of the Philadelphia *Item*, and Helen W., wife of J. Leedom Jones, of Norristown. The family mansion, at the corner of DeKalb and Jacoby streets, has long been one of the centers of social enjoyment and kindly hospitality in Norristown.

Mrs. Wills was a woman of rare literary ability, who found time, in the intervals of devotion to household interests, which always claimed her attention, to be of much assistance to her husband in his profession of journalist. A charming and versatile writer, her many contributions to the *Herald*, as well as her two published volumes, "A Summer in Europe," and "A Winter in California," bear ample testimony to her industry and her fondness for literary pursuits.

She was well educated. A ready and brilliant talker, as well as an incisive writer, she was at home in the social as fully as in the literary world. She was an excellent judge of books and in her capacity as reviewer accumulated a large and valuable library. Possessed of a vivid imagination and a cultivated mind, she wrote with equal facility letters of travel, book notices, social and descriptive articles, short stories and editorials.

Mr. and Mrs. Wills have traveled much in this country and abroad, a number of trips, including a second tour of Europe in 1892 (the first had been taken in 1875), being undertaken for the purpose of benefiting her impaired health. She died June 7, 1895.

THOMAS J. RAMBO, retired, who for several years was an extensive limestone operator, is a native of Swedesburg, this county, where he was born July 24, 1849. His parents were Nathan and Ann (Broades) Rambo, both descended from old Pennsylvania families. The subject of this sketch, their youngest son, was reared principally at Swedesburg, where he attended the public schools until fifteen years of age. He then entered William F. Wyer's Military school at West Chester, this State, where he took a full course of training, and after being graduated he went into the limestone business at Swedesburg. Inher-

Mary H. Hills.

iting considerable property, he operated on an extensive scale, and having executive ability, he rapidly accumulated wealth and added to his holdings in various directions. He followed the business energetically until 1890, when he disposed of his limestone property to the Pennsylvania Railroad company and retired from all active business. At that time he removed to Bridgeport, Pa., where he has ever since resided.

Politically he is a staunch Republican, and in religion a member and vestryman of the Swedes Episcopal church, at Swedesburg. He is also a member of Bridgeport Lodge No. 51, Patriotic Order Sons of America.

On the 30th of October, 1890, Mr. Rambo was united in marriage to Ida M., a daughter of John and Charlotte Bickings, of Norristown. The Rambo family is of Swedish descent, but have resided in eastern Pennsylvania for many generations. Jonas Rambo (paternal grandfather) was a life long resident of Upper Merion township, this county, and owned large tracts of valuable land underlaid with fine veins of superior limestone. This property passed into the hands of the descendant's children, who operated limestone quarries at Swedesburg for many years. These operations were carried on largely by Nathan Rambo, father of Thomas J. The former, in addition to being a wealthy and influential citizen, was a man who took a deep interest in political and public affairs. He was an old line Whig in politics and a member of Swedes Episcopal church, in which latter he served as vestryman and trustee for many years. He died in 1858, at the age of forty-seven, having been born on June 27, 1810. He married Ann Broades, by whom he had a family of seven children, five of whom still survive. The two eldest were daughters, Eliza and Mary Jane, both now deceased. Those living are Rebecca, widow of J. P. H. Jones; Emma P., wife of P. P. Merritt; William B., engaged in the lime business; Nathan, retired, a sketch of whom will be found on another page of this work; and Thomas J., the subject of the foregoing sketch. Mrs. Ann Rambo was born August 12, 1809, and died July 23, 1889, having survived her husband for more than thirty years. Their remains sleep side by side in the cemetery at old Swedes church.

J. FRANK BOYER, an enterprising and progressive business man of Norristown, is a son of Michael C. and Mary A. (Ziegler) Boyer, and was born March 2, 1867, at Norristown, this county. Philip Boyer, paternal grandfather, was born in Frederick township, Montgomery county. Schooled to the arts of agriculture, he took up and pursued that vocation all his life, most of which was spent near Salfordville, this county. He was a pious Christian gentleman and a member of the Reformed church. He died at the age of seventy-six years and his remains now peacefully repose in the old Goshenhoppen church yard.

Michael C. Boyer, father, was born in Upper Salford township, this county, on May 28, 1821. He attended Washington Hall Collegiate Institute, obtaining a good education and then for a time followed the profession of teaching. He was a Democrat politically and after leaving the profession of teaching, was elected sheriff of Montgomery county, a position he filled with credit and entire satisfaction to his constituents for one full term of three years. After his term of office had expired, Sheriff

Boyer and William Schall formed a partnership and engaged in the manufacture of nails and afterward became intererested in the Norris Works at Norristown, an enterprise that employed one hundred and fifty hands. He was a man of remarkable inventive genius, being the author of not less than fifty patents, among them and of the most important, being Boyer's Hoof Liniment. For the manufacture of this liniment, which had a wide reputation and possessed many virtues, the Boyer Hoof Liniment company was organized, with which he remained prominently identified until death closed his career, on October 10, 1891, at the age of seventy-two years. He was married but once and his children were as follows: Jesse, Katie, Wallace, Horace G., Wilson, Howard C., Michael Allen, Harry Z., Mary L., J. Frank, and Charles, deceased.

J. Frank Boyer attended the public schools of Norristown, and at the age of sixteen years he took a position to learn the tin and hardware business, with Frank W. Wilson of Norristown, and at the age of eighteen years he began business on his own account. In 1889 he located where he is now, on the corner of Main and Green streets, where he owns a good business stand sixteen feet wide and one hundred and thirty feet deep and three stories high, with an annex of thirty-four by fifty feet and two stories high. He does a large and prosperous plumbing, steam heating and tinning business. He is a progressive and enterprising business man and takes a lively interest in all matters pertaining to the welfare of his borough. He is a director of the Star Building and Loan Association and of the Norristown Shoe Company, and holds stock in a number of other business enterprises of the borough. Like his father, he is a Democrat and served for three years a councilman from the Fourth ward. November 14, 1888, he married Annie G., a daughter of Patrick Curron, a wholesale liquor dealer of Norristown.

JACOB R. STEINMETZ, retired, is the eldest son of Jacob and Christiana (Robbins) Steinmetz, and was born at Norristown, Pennsylvania, February 7, 1842. His paternal great-grandfather, Jacob Steinmetz, born 1734, was a resident of Philadelphia, where William Steinmetz, (grandfather) was born and reared. He afterward settled at Montgomery Square, this county. For a number of years he was engaged in the manufacture of bricks, but in later life devoted himself to agricultural pursuits Politically he was an old line Whig, and in religion an Episcopalian. He married Mary Billmeyer, of Germantown, by whom he had four children. He was a self made man of considerable means, and died July 8, 1851, at the advanced age of seventy years. His son, Jacob Steinmetz, (father) was born in 1811, and grew up at Montgomery Square, this county. About 1837 he removed to Norristown and engaged in the lumber business, which he followed for some twelve years, at the mills now operated by Body and Livingstone. He then settled on a farm adjoining the borough of Norristown, at the end of Arch street, where he died in 1881, at the age of seventy years. He was a Whig and Republican in politics, and vestryman of St. John's Episcopal church, of Norristown. In 1841 he married Christiana Robbins, a daughter of Benjamin Robbins, of Philadelphia, and by that union had a family of five children: Jacob R., the subject of this

sketch; Susan, married Samuel A. Bailey, and is now deceased; John B. and George H., twins, and Mary Ellen, who died in girlhood.

Mrs. Christiana Steinmetz died in 1888, at the age of seventy-one years.

Jacob R. Steinmetz has passed his entire life in Norristown. He was educated at private schools and Elmwood seminary, of Norristown, and after leaving school, engaged in farming with his father. At the beginning of the Civil war in 1862, he enlisted in Company L, 15th Pennsylvania cavalry, and served under General Rosencrans, during his term of enlistment. Mr. Steinmetz took part in the Maryland campaign, prior to the battle of Antietam, and then, moving to Louisville, Kentucky, on November 9, 1862, reported to the division commanded by General Rosencrans, at Nashville, Tennessee, December 24, 1862. He was engaged in the battles of Stone river, Chickamauga, the campaigns of the armies of the Cumberland, General Stoneman's raids into Virginia and North Carolina, and also in the pursuit of Jeff. Davis in the spring of 1863. He was mustered out at Nashville, Tennessee, June 1, 1865.

Returning to Pennsylvania after the close of the war, Mr. Steinmetz became collector for Howell Bros., of Philadelphia, with whom he remained a number of years. He then returned to the farm for some little time, and later formed a partnership with James Daniels, under the firm name of Daniels and Steinmetz, and engaged in the construction of freight cars. This enterprise was conducted until 1878, when Mr. Steinmetz sold out his interest and retired from business.

In politics Mr. Steinmetz has always been a Republican, his first vote was cast for Abraham Lincoln and Andrew G. Curtin, in 1864. He is a member of St. John's Episcopal church, of Norristown, and of Zook Post, No. 11, G. A. R.

On March 22, 1893, Mr. Steinmetz was married to Martha Jane Bickings, daughter of John Bickings, of Norristown. Mrs. Steinmetz is a member of Christ's (Swedes) church, Upper Merion township.

J. RAMBO DEHAVEN, proprietor of the well known DeKalb nurseries, is a son of Mark and Hannah DeHaven, and was born in Upper Merion township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, June 2, 1839. The DeHavens are of French lineage, and in the early part of the last century, February 19, 1745, Andrew DeHaven, one of the first of the American line, was born. He was a son of William DeHaven, who had five children: Margaret, born August 13, 1739; Peter, born January 31, 1741; Sarah, born September 21, 1743; and Andrew, the great-grandfather of the subject of this sketch. Andrew DeHaven was a native of Whitpain township, this county, and was united in marriage with Elizabeth McGlathery, by whom he had seven children: Deborah, Elizabeth, Mordecai, Peter, Sarah, Nathan and Henry. Mordecai (grandfather) resided in Plymouth township, was born in the year 1786, and died April 5, 1852, at the age of sixty-six years. He was a farmer by occupation, and in addition to this, was an extensive lime dealer.

He held membership in the old Swedes church of Upper Merion township, in which he was an active and influential member. He married Abigail Rambo, a daughter of Nathan Rambo, who was born July 8, 1790, and died December 15, 1874.

Both husband and wife are buried near the old Swedes church.

His son, Mark DeHaven, was born December 10, 1813. He was brought up on a farm and engaged from time to time in various pursuits, chief among which were those of a lime manufacturer and cattle dealer. For many years, beginning in the forties, he was a large mine operator in Upper Merion township. He also was a member of the old Swedes church, and with his father, was a member of the second troop of Montgomery county cavalry. During the Philadelphia riots of 1844, he saw considerable active service. He also served for many years as township supervisor. His death occurred on September 9, 1889, when in his seventy-eighth year. In the year 1838, Mark DeHaven was married to Hannah Rambo, daughter of John and Elizabeth Rambo, by Rev. N. Diehl, D. D. Elizabeth Rambo, mother of Hannah Rambo, was born May 11, 1771, and died December 18, 1850. Mrs. DeHaven was born September 22, 1811, and died March 16, 1890.

Mr. and Mrs. DeHaven were the parents of two children: J. Rambo and Rachel. The latter was born December 19, 1841, and died January 27, 1857.

J. Rambo DeHaven was reared on the farm, attended the common schools, and when about twenty-three years of age, embarked in the nursery business, which he has followed successfully ever since. He made a speciality of fruit, shade and ornamental trees, most of which were grown on the farm where his father now resides. He is also extensively engaged in farming and is a very skillful taxidermist. Mr. DeHaven also possesses the natural gifts of an artist, and is very skillful in many forms of illustrative art, although he never made a technical study of art subjects. He has filled a number of township and local offices, and has repeatedly served as judge and inspector of elections. He was brought up in the faith of the old Swedish church, and still adheres to the dogmas of that denomination. On account of the donation of the present site of the old Swedes church by a former member of Mr. DeHaven's family, he now possesses as a birthright, a portion of the burial ground connected with that church.

The line of descent on Mr. Mr. Dehaven's maternal side is Swedish, as the name would indicate. The family is one of the oldest and best known in Montgomery county.

EDWARD EVERETT LONG, Esq., a competent and energetic member of the Montgomery county bar, is a son of Solomon and Rebecca S. (Sassaman) Long, and was born in Upper Providence township, Montgomery county, on September 11, 1861. Mr. Long's ancestors on his father's side are of German Lutheran stock and have been residents of the county for upward of a hundred years. On his mother's side he is connected with the Markley family, a very old and prominent family. He is a direct descendant of Judge Benjamin Markley, who was prominent in the history of this county in the early part of the present century, and whose grandson was the Hon. Benjamin Markley Boyer, a member of Congress from this district for two terms, 1865 to 1869, and a leader at the Montgomery county bar and president judge of the Montgomery courts from 1882 till his death in 1886. Henry Long, the grandfather of the subject of this sketch, was a native of Marlborough township, where he passed his life following the

pursuits of a farmer. Solomon Long was born in the same township on January 24, 1816, and during his early life learned the carpenter trade. Later he removed to Upper Providence township and became interested in farming and droving, and in 1868 removed to Norristown, where he engaged in the livery business. He died here on November 14, 1870. He was twice married and by his second marriage had four children, one daughter and three sons, the only one surviving being Edward E. Those deceased are Davis R., (died November 19, 1870, at the age of five years); Ellen B., wife of Herbert D. Yocum, (died September 9, 1886, aged twenty-seven years); and Jacob S., (died July 18, 1894,) at the age of thirty years. At the time of his death, Jacob S. was connected with the International Navigation company of Philadelphia and New York, and was considered a business man of excellent promise. He had also acquired a reputation as a newspaper writer and displayed marked literary ability.

Edward E. Long was six years old when his father removed to Norristown and but nine years old when his father died. He was educated in the public schools of Norristown, at Ursinus college and at Millersville State Normal school. But his opportunities for acquiring an education were limited, as at the early age of twelve years he was put to work and from that time supported himself and aided in the support of the rest of the family. During his boyhood he was in the employ of the Philadelphia and Reading railroad company and worked on a farm. He, however, had the opportunity of attending school during the winter months and as he saw the advantages of a good education, he lost no opportunity to improve his mind by reading and study. After a short term in the academical department of Ursinus college and a year spent in the Norristown High school, he began teaching in the public schools at the age of eighteen years, and continued in that vocation for four years. For the first three years he taught a seven month's term which gave him the opportunity to spend three months of the first year at the Millersville Normal school, and during the two following years to spend the same time at Ursinus college, enabling him to become a junior in the latter institution. In 1883 he resolved to enter the profession of law and began his reading under the preceptorship of Franklin March, Esq., of the Norristown bar. During the period of his studentship he was also a transcriber in the office of the recorder of deeds. This alternation of work and study was combined until his admission to the bar on December 5, 1887. Shortly after his admission he opened an office in Norristown and has steadily gained a very creditable practice. Mr. Long is a Republican in his political affiliations and has always taken an active part in the political movements of the county and borough. In 1888 he was elected a member of town council from the first ward but only served in that capacity for one year, moving out of the ward at the end of that time. While a member of council he was ever alert for the best interests of the borough and was instrumental in the establishment of the first independent board of health in the borough, the town council prior to this time having constituted the only board of health. In 1891 he was elected a member of the school board from the Tenth ward and served as school director for three years, and on January 1, 1894, he received the appointment of solicitor and clerk for the directors of the poor of Montgomery county and is still in office. Aside from his professional duties Mr. Long has

always found time for business activity. He has been president of the West Norristown Building and Loan association since its organization in 1886, and has been interested in various business ventures. He is a member and was formerly vice-president of the Republican Invincibles of Norristown.

On April 26, 1887, Mr. Long was united in marriage with Mira C. Earnest, daughter of Charles and Isabella Crawford Earnest. To this union two children have been born: Isabella Crawford and Edward Everett. Mr. Long's career from the beginning has been marked by a patient and untiring effort. He is largely a self-made man and has won his present enviable standing among the citizens of Montgomery county entirely through his personal force and energy. He has always been known as a careful and studious lawyer, ever ready to do all that can be done for a client, fearlessly defending his interests, or maintaing all rights given to a suitor under the law. In recognition of his qualities as a lawyer, he has been appointed by the presiding judges a member of the board of examiners of the Montgomery county bar, who pass upon the qualifications of all persons seeking admission to the bar. He has been prominently mentioned for the office of District Attorney, but has decided not to be a candidate at the present time. Should Mr. Long make a canvass for the office there is little doubt that he would be most favorably received.

On March 4, 1895, Mr. Long entered into a business co-partnership with George W. Rogers, Esq., one of the oldest and most prominent members of the Montgomery county bar, the firm being known as Rogers & Long. Mr. Rogers is an ex-District Attorney and during a period of over forty years has enjoyed a large and lucrative practice. Probably the most celebrated of Mr. Rogers' cases was his defense of Blasius Pistorius, the Catholic priest who on July 24, 1875, shot and killed Isaac Jaquette, a farmer residing near Norristown. The priest and his brother John Pistorius were indicted for murder. John was acquitted but Blasius was convicted in the first degree and sentenced to be hanged. The German government became interested in his case, he being a German subject although a resident of Pennsylvania. The case was taken to the Supreme Court and a new trial was granted. Mr. Rogers, who had now associated with him Colonel James Boyd and Stephen S. Remak, Esq., of Philadelphia, obtained a change of venue to Philadelphia, where Blasius Pistorius was again tried, convicted and sentenced to be hanged. The condemned man's counsel aided by the intercession of the German Consul, succeeded in having his sentence commuted to imprisonment for life, and he died in the Eastern Penitentiary a few years ago.

It is the intention of Mr. Rogers to lighten his labors toward the evening of his career, and he together with his wife and daughter have started on a tour of Europe and the old world to last for at least a year. Meanwhile Mr. Long assumes sole charge of the firm's business. With the careful attention he has always given to matters placed in his hands and the success he has already met with in his profession, there can be no doubt but that a bright and promising future is before him.

JACOB MOLL KNETZ, a retired merchant of East Greenville, this county, is a son of John and Abigail (Moll) Knetz, and was born August 6, 1851, at Clayton, Berks county, Pennsylvania.

A. R. Saylor.

The founder of the Knetz family in this country was Henry Knetz, grandfather, who near the end of the eighteenth century emigrated from Germany to the new world and located near Clayton, in Berks county. He was a farmer, a Whig, and a member of the Lutheran church. He married a Miss Boyer, and three children, David, Sally and John, were born to them.

John Knetz, father, was born near Clayton, where he was reared. He became a farmer and drover and cattle dealer. He was an ardent Republican, and a consistent, devoted and active worker of the Lutheran church. His children were as follows: Maria, who married Martin Landis; Jacob Moll, subject; Elizabeth, who wedded Andrew Stauffer; and Sarah, wife of Reuben Beidler. John Knetz died November 4, 1880, at the age of sixty-four years. His widow is yet living.

Jacob Moll Knetz obtained only a common school education. Leaving school, he remained with his father on the farm until thirty years of age, when he took a position as clerk in a general store at Clayton, but was soon called home to assume the management of his father's farms, and remained in that capacity for one year after the latter's death. In the autumn of 1882 he moved on a property he had purchased at East Greenville, this county, where for two years he was engaged in the general store business. Since closing out these interests he has lived a retired merchant. Mr. Knetz is a Republican, and for four years, from 1882 to 1885, inclusive, served as burgess of East Greenville, and also served two terms as auditor, and as a member of the borough council one term. In 1891 he was appointed a notary public by Governor Robert E. Pattison. Religiously he is a deacon in the Pennsburg St. Mark's Lutheran church, and takes an active interest in all forms of church work. He is a member in high standing of the following secret societies: Knights of the Golden Eagle, Knights of Pythias, Junior Order United American Mechanics, and Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

On January 13, 1881, Mr. Knetz wedded Emma S., a daughter of Joseph Shultz, a veterinary surgeon, of Zionsville, Lehigh county, this State. John, Jacob, Clarence, deceased; and William Henry Harrison are the children born to their union.

A. R. SAYLOR, postmaster at Royersford, is a native of Lenhartsville, Berks county, where he was born July 3, 1857. His parents were Dr. Henry A. and Lucinda (Reeser) Saylor, the former born on the old Saylor homestead in Limerick township, this county, and the latter a native of Berks county. The Saylors are of German extraction, and have been residents of Montgomery county since 1708, when Henry Saylor, paternal great-grandfather of the subject of this sketch, purchased land in what is now Limerick township, and engaged in farming. He had two children, Henry and Susanna. His son Henry Saylor (grandfather), inherited the farm, and passed his whole life there, engaged in agricultural pursuits. He married Mary A. Groves, and was the father of five children: Albert G., a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this volume; Azariah, who owns and resides on the old homestead near Limerick Square, this county; Dr. Henry A., father of A. R. Saylor; Susanna, and Ada Eliza. He was a Lutheran in religion, a Democrat in politics, and died in 1876, aged seventy-six years. Dr. Henry A. Saylor

stated, the Lewin homestead is now the site of no small portion of the flourishing borough of Royersford.

William Lewin was married to Rebecca Custer, a daughter of Samuel Custer, February 8, 1851. To them were born the following sons and daughters: Elizabeth, who died in infancy; J. Milton, the subject of this sketch; Sarah, Samuel, Willis, George, Mary, Emma, and Abraham. As a youth, J. M. Lewin had a cherished desire to attend college; but, as his father thought a common school education sufficient, the boy had to content himself with such advantages as could be furnished at the old Hobson school house. The greater part of his boyhood was spent on his father's farm.

April 1, 1873, he entered as an apprentice in the shoemaker shop of John U. Bean, Upper Providence township. Having served two years, he opened a shop of his own in Royersford, April 1, 1875. There being no other shoe store in town at that time, Mr. Lewin carried a small line of boots and shoes in connection with his trade on the bench. Having accumulated a small capital in this business, he bought a half interest in the general store of Rogers & Son. In that business he continued from May 27, 1879, to August 1, 1881, when he sold out his share of the business to Jones Rogers. Mr. Lewin was employed in the shipping department of the Buckwalter Stove company until September 13, 1883, when he again embarked in the shoe business. Having built a new store along the main street of the borough, he conducted a very successful business until September 1, 1892, when he disposed of his entire business to F. S. Brown. He then entered the firm of the Grander Stove Company, purchasing the interest of the late Benjamin Carver. Mr. Lewin was elected treasurer of the above company, a position which he still very creditably fills. Mr. Lewin's usual energy and activity are demonstrated in this business as well as in all other positions which he has had the honor of filling. The above mentioned traits of his character have enabled him to contribute largely to the general prosperity of Royersford.

He has been identified with many of the leading industries of his town. Among these may be mentioned the Royersford Iron foundry. He was president of this company at the time of the sale of their plant to its present owners, Floyd, Wells & Company. He helped to organize the Penn Glass company, and was one of its directors until its purchase by the Diamond Glass company. When the Keystone Meter company was organized, Mr. Lewin was among the founders, and continued as a director until the property was transferred to the present company of the same name. He is still one of the trustees of the old company.

Mr. Lewin was treasurer of the original Enterprise Hosiery company, of which he was one of the promoters. He, with five other gentlemen, organized the Fernwood Cemetery company. Of this company he is still a director. He is also a director of the Industrial Savings bank, chartered March 21, 1892. Not only did he help in the organization of this bank, but was also very active in the founding of the two National banks, that is, the "Home" and the "National Bank of Royersford." Having helped to organize the Home Water company, he was elected one of the directors, a position which he resigned at the end of the first year. He is an active member of the Humane Fire company, of which

he is one of the founders, and was for two years their financial secretary.

He has held the office of secretary in the Royersford Building and Loan association since organization, May 1, 1890. In 1894 he organized the Linfield Cold Storage company, of which he became treasurer. Mr. Lewin has held and honorably filled several offices in the borough of Royersford, which he helped to incorporate in 1879, Judge Ross having confirmed the report of the jury to grant the charter, June 14, of that year. It was during his administration as school director, (a position which he filled for nine years), that he strongly advocated free books and the Smead heating and ventilating system. The schools of Royersford now have the benefit of both these systems.

In 1885 he was elected assistant assessor. February 16, 1892, he was elected burgess by an overwhelming majority. He served in this capacity one year. It was during his administration in the last named office that Mr. Lewin did something for which the business people of Royersford can feel grateful. The Pennsylvania Railroad company having asked permission to lay tracks on First Avenue, Mr. Lewin called council together on the evening of June 14, 1892. Ordinance No. 65 was passed, granting the railroad company the franchise, and the same night he, with about three hundred workmen, went to the lower end of the borough. When morning dawned the people beheld twenty-three hundred feet of track stretching from the lower end of the avenue to the Schuylkill bridge.

Mr. Lewin is quite prominent and very active in Masonic circles. He is connected with different lodges as follows: Charter member of Royersford Lodge, F. & A. M., No. 585; member of Pottstown Chapter No. 271; charter member of Nativity Commandery No. 71, Pottstown; member of Bloomsburg Consistory; member of Palestine Council No. 8, Phoenixville; and a Noble of Rajah Mystic Shrine, Reading. He is also connected with the Improved Order of Red Men, Towamencin Tribe No. 99, Royersford.

In politice Mr. Lewin is an Independent voter. He was appointed notary public by Governor Pattison on April 8, 1886. This position he still fills. Mr. Lewin is an active and consistent member of the Lutheran church. As executor of the estate of William Lewin, he donated the ground upon which was erected Grace Evangelical Lutheran chapel. He is one of the trustees of the Lutheran congregation of Royersford.

Mr. Lewin was married to Lizzie Bean, daughter of Isaac Bean, Upper Providence, February 18, 1875. With her he lived happily until her death, July 1, 1894. To them were born three sons: William A., Isaac E., deceased; and Lawrence B. Mr. Lewin's family life marks one of the pleasant features of his career. His eldest son, William A., graduated with high honors at Fairfield Military academy, June, 1895.

His life has been active and useful. None stand higher at Royersford than J. Milton Lewin, whose career is briefly and imperfectly outlined in this sketch.

CHARLES Z. WEBER, M. D., a leading young physician of Norristown, is a son of John C. and Anna M. (Casselberry) Weber, and a native of Downington, Chester county, Pennsylvania, where he was born February 2, 1856. The Webers are

of German extraction, and the family was founded in America by Christian and Applonia Weber, who shortly after their marriage in the fatherland came to this country with some four hundred Protestant Germans, in the sailing ship *Good Will*, and landed at Philadelphia, September 27, 1727. The following year Christian Weber purchased fifty acres of land from Jacob Hill, in what is now Towamencin township, Montgomery county, and erected thereon a house which is still standing. He died in 1778, aged eighty-two years, his wife having passed away five years earlier in the seventieth year of her age. Among other children they had a son Christian Weber, who was born in 1743, married Elizabeth Weidner in 1765, and died in 1815 in Lehigh county. He served as a captain in the Revoultionary war, and held a number of civil offices. Of his sons, John Weber, great-grandfather of the subject of this sketch, was born October 8, 1768, and became a distinguished politician and statesman. In 1807 he was elected a member of the State assembly, and three times re-elected, serving through the last two sessions as speaker. He married Elizabeth Reiff, by whom he had a family of five children: George, Christian, Mary, John and Joseph. The second son, Christian Weber, (grandfather) was born August 16, 1793, and after attaining manhood, married Charlotte Casselberry, daughter of William and Catharine Casselberry, of Evansburg. To their union were born eight children: Ann Eliza, Catharine, Rebecca, Elmina, William C., John C., Mary and Emma. John C. Weber (father) was born January 11, 1829, grew to manhood on the farm, and after reaching his majority, engaged in agricultural pursuits on his own account. He followed that occupation successfully for many years, but since 1880 has been engaged in the general produce business at Norristown. Politically he is a Republican, and in church membership a Presbyterian, having served as ruling elder in the Centennial Presbyterian church, of Jeffersonville, for more than a quarter of a century. He has always taken an active part in church work, and for a number of years has been superintendent of the Sunday school connected with his church.

In 1853 he married Anna M. Casselberry, a daughter of Isaac and Margaret Casselberry, and by that union had a family of four children: Mary Ellen, married George W. Carr, now connected officially with the Post Office department at Washington, D. C.; Charles Z., the subject of this sketch; Isaac C., married Florence Sullivan, of Norristown, where he is now engaged in the retail coal trade; and Anna C., residing with her father. Mrs. Anna M. Weber died in 1860, and Mr. Weber afterward married Sarah B. Heebner, of Lower Providence, this county.

Dr. Charles Z. Weber, fifth in line of descent from the original emigrant, was reared principally on his father's farm in this county, receiving his primary education in the public schools of Norristown, and completing his academic studies at Tremont seminary, which he attended for three years. He then engaged in teaching in Montgomery county, being thus employed for one year at Tylersport and for four years at Centre Square. During the last three years of this time he was also engaged in reading medicine, under the direction of Joseph K. Weaver, of Norristown. In 1880 he matriculated at the Jefferson Medical college, of Philadelphia, from which institution he was graduated March 30, 1882, with the degree of M. D.

J. W. Hendricks.

His devotion as a student while in college attracted the attention of his fellow students and the faculty, and he was honored with the position of quiz-master on physiology during the year preceding his graduation, and on the latter occasion was awarded the Henry C. Chapman prize for the best thesis on a subject pertaining to physiology. Immediately after receiving his degree, Dr. Weber formed a partnership with his former precepter, Dr. Joseph K. Weaver, and began the practice of medicine at Norristown. One year later Dr. Weber opened an office on Airy street, near DeKalb, and has practiced his profession continuously from that to the present time. In 1884 he removed to his present home and office, Nos. 15 and 17 Airy street, where he has built up an extensive and lucrative general practice.

His residence and office are both handsome brick structures, finished on the interior with walnut and beautifully decorated. With the new brick stable and carriage house on the rear of the lots, they form a valuable property and a most commodious home.

Dr. Weber has been a member of the Montgomery County Medical society since 1882, serving as its secretary for six years and as its president in 1892. He is also a member of the Pennsylvania State Medical Society, and of the American Medical Association. Being yet an earnest student of his profession, he is a constant reader and an occasional contributer to leading medical journals, and is also the author of the article on medicine in the late history of Montgomery county. He is a member of the staff of visiting physicians to Charity hospital, and one of the lecturers to the school of nurses, which graduates annually from this institution, and has lectured elsewhere upon subjects pertaining to his profession. He has also occupied the position of prison physician by appointment for the past six years.

On October 28, 1884, Dr. Weber was united in marriage to Anna Y. Gilbert, a daughter of Solomon Gilbert, of Norristown, and a graduate from the Norristown High school and of the Millersville State Normal school. To Dr. and Mrs. Weber have been born three children: Charles Gilbert, born October 5, 1886, and died January 4, 1888; Jean, born August 3, 1888; and John Malcolm, born October 22, 1890. In his political affiliations, Dr. Weber is a Republican, and was a warm admirer of James G. Blaine. In religious faith and church membership he is a Presbyterian, and is also a member of the American Legion of Honor.

He finds diversion from the onerous duties of his extensive practice, in the management of a large farm adjacent to the town. The possession of this tract imparts additional interest, from the fact that for a period covered by two generations, "Kinwood Farm" was the fond home of his paternal ancestors.

REV. JOSEPH H. HENDRICKS, A. M. There are a goodly number of persons to be found bearing the name of Hendricks in many of the States of the American Union, possibly the most prominent being that of the late Hon. Thomas A. Hendricks, a United States senator, governor of Indiana, and vice president of the United States, with bright prospects of becoming president of the United States, had his life been spared a few years longer. The family name was originally Hendricksen, and the

first settlers in this country of this name, came from Holland, and are characterized in the often-recited history of the settlement of Germantown, Pa., as a liberty-loving people. The name is also quite conspicuous in the extended German histories of the countless martyrdoms of the non-resistant Christians in the continent of Europe.

The subject of this sketch is a son of the late Abraham H. and Mary Hendricks, and was born in Upper Providence, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, December 21, A. D. 1834, his maternal grandfather being the Rev. John Hunsicker, and his maternal great-grandfather the Rev. Henry (Heinrich) Hunsicker, both very prominent and influential Mennonite bishops in their day and generation in Eastern Pennsylvania.

Mr. Hendricks was reared on his father's farm, and in the spring of 1851 entered Freeland seminary (now Ursinus college), and in the fall of 1852 he took charge of a public school at Milford Square, Bucks county. During the four consecutive winters he figured in the role of public school teacher, attending boarding school in the summer months. In February, 1856, he was offered and accepted the position of assistant teacher in Freeland seminary, then a very popular boarding school at which there were many young men in attendance qualifying themselves to become public school teachers, there being but one Normal school in the State at that time. From the position of assistant teacher in the common English branches, in two years he was promoted to teach the higher mathematics and was also made vice-principal of the institution. In the fall of 1858, he married Kate, the youngest daughter of the late Rev. Abraham Hunsicker, the founder of Freeland seminary, and a sister of the Rev. Henry A. Hunsicker, the proprietor and principal of the Institution.

It was while the subject of this sketch was successfully engaged in the pleasant and profitable duties of teacher and vice-principal, that, at a meeting of the Christian Society, at Freeland, now Collegeville, held in A. D. 1860, he was, according to the usages of the Mennonite church, elected on trial to the office of the Gospel Minister. As was expected, he at once began to attend to some of the duties of the gospel ministry as best he could along with his school work, although under very serious disadvantages, but having succeeded fairly well, by the direction of the said Christian Society, he was on June 25, 1861, ordained to the office of a Minister of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, invested with all the powers usually belonging to that office, by the laying on of hands, the Revs. Abraham Hunsicker, Israel Beidler, Abraham Grater and Henry A. Hunsicker, officiating.

The Christian Society materialized and was incorporated in the Spring A. D. 1855, and was composed of the above named ministers and about forty adherents who had been disowned and disfellowshipped by a branch of the Mennonite church of which they had all been members, because of their so charged too liberal views of Christian doctrine, church fellowship, education, and kindred subjects. The society built for itself in Freeland (now Collegeville), in 1854 and 1855, what is styled the "Christian Meeting House," and the same was opened in the Spring of the latter year for public worship. The Christian Society, through the stated preachings of the Gospel, during the first half dozen years of its existence, made substantial progress and seemed clearly to indicate that it had an honorable place and an important mission to fill in the com-

munity. It was, therefore, wisely determined to arrange for a more perfect church organization, by the preparation of a discipline, election of a church council, pastor, etc.

In February, 1862, the subject of this sketch was elected pastor of the Christian Society, the other ministerial brethren for good and sufficient reasons, declining to accept the pastorate, and on the first Sunday in April, 1862, he was installed as pastor, Rev. Israel Beidler preaching the sermon and delivering the charge to the congregation, and Rev. Henry A. Hunsicker delivering the charge to the pastor. Prior to 1862, the brethren who had so faithfully preached in the "Christian Meeting House" received no pecuniary compensation for their services. During the first two years of Mr. Hendricks' pastorate, he continued his relation with Freeland seminary as teacher and vice-principal, but in entering upon the third year, he wholly severed his relations with it, A. H. Fetterolf, now president of Girard college, becoming his successor. During the next three years of the pastorate, Mr. Hendricks cultivated his father-in-law's farm adjoining the church property, the congregation in the meantime being educated in the way of contributing with commendable liberality, towards the support of the gospel. In February, 1867, he bought his father's property near the church and at once moved thereon, where he has lived ever since.

To give a sketch of Mr. Hendricks' life work, is to give a history of what is now Trinity Reformed church, Collegeville, Pa., the two being closely and indissolubly interrelated. He is now in the thirty-fourth year of the pastorate. He has been actively connected with and engaged in the Sunday school during all its past history, commencing in the spring of 1856. For twenty-eight consecutive years he was superintendent. During the thirty-nine years of its existence he has been teaching and leading the singing. During the pastorate, the church has been continually "enlarging the place of her tent, lengthening her cords and strengthening her stakes." The church building has been very materially enlarged, improved and beautified; the church yard and cemetery grounds also extended to twice their original size. A very creditable church has also during the pastorate been founded, well organized and built up at Skippackville. The Collegeville church owns and controls a fine chapel at Ironbridge, used for Sunday school and church purposes.

The original Christian society, subsequently Trinity Christian church, remained independent of Ecclesiastical connection with other churches, until 1888, when, after all necessary and proper steps in the premises had been taken, it became connected with the Reformed (German) church of the United States. In 1892 the Skippackville church was also formally made a part of the same denomination. The Collegeville charge, as it is made up of Trinity church, Collegeville; Trinity church, Skippackville; and Ironbridge chapel, Rahn's Station; and with its three Christian Endeavor societies, its three Sunday schools, and its other auxiliary church societies, is a very influential charge, and has grown to its present proportions and prominence from a very small beginning, under the pastorate of the subject of this sketch. In its earlier history, the Collegeville church took advanced views on the subjects of African slavery, intemperance and the education of the masses. The pastor was fortunate in having a constituency of generous and large-hearted people who seemed equal to any

reasonable demand made upon them. The present consistory of the church is composed of the following, viz; Prof. J. S. Weinberger, A. M., LL. D., Frank M. Hobson, Isaiah H. Detwiler, R. J. Casselberry, 'Squire John S. Hunsicker, A. D. Bechtel, Captain H. H. Fetterolf, F. G. Hobson, Esq., and M. T. Hunsicker.

Ursinus college is located right in the heart of the parish of the Collegeville church, and its professors and a large number of its students are regular attendants at public worship, thus giving an intellectual tone to the congregation. A number of the members of the church are either directors or graduates of the college.

The subject of this sketch while lacking the substantial advantages to be gained from a college and seminary education, which lack he always greatly deplored, has always been a liberal supporter and patron of Ursinus college, being for many years one of its directors and a member of three of its leading committees. His personal interest in higher education is further shown by the fact of his having three children and two sons-in-law as graduates of the institution.

Mr. Hendricks enjoys the distinction of having served the same charge longer than any other living pastor in Montgomery county, and out of over eight hundred and fifty funerals at which he was asked to officiate, he has never missed any on account of sickness, and has only missed in a third of a century three church services on account of any preventing bodily sickness; and in all these years, has had but one brief "pastor's vacation," as the church's location and constituency make it specially undesirable not to have it open every Sabbath for public worship.

The late Moses Auge wrote for the general public of Mr. Hendricks eight years ago, that he is "greatly beloved by his own congregation, and is much in demand outside of his own churches, especially to officiate at funerals. He is a fluent and forcible preacher, speaking entirely *ex tempore*, in a rapid, earnest and convincing manner, impressing every one with the absolute conviction of the truth of what he is saying." Mr. Hendricks has delivered numerous addresses at Sunday school picnics, public school commencements, national Thanksgiving and Decoration days, and to the G. A. R. Posts, for which he has received words and testimonials of high appreciation.

Mr. Hendricks and his wife are both in the enjoyment of good physical health, and have four children living, viz: Ella M., married to F. G. Hobson, Esq., of Collegeville, a lawyer at the Norristown bar, and treasurer and trust officer of the Norristown Title, Trust and Safe Deposit company; Bertha, married to the Rev. Charles E. Wehler, pastor of St. Paul's Reformed church, Manheim, Lancaster county, Pa.; Abraham H., whose wife is the daughter of Addison T. Miller, of Limerick, residing at Pottstown, is a lawyer, holding the office of borough solicitor of Pottstown, and is a prominent candidate for district attorney of the county; Sara C., unmarried and residing with her parents, a cultured singer, the leading soprano singer in the Sunday school, church, etc., of her native village, and has been elected teacher of voice culture at Ursinus college.

Mrs. Hendricks' mother, the relict of the late Rev. Abraham Hunsicker, is still living, enjoys good health, and has the use of her bodily and mental powers to a high degree, although born November 16, 1798, and now almost ninety-seven years of age.

Although Mr. Hendricks did not go through the curriculum of a college course,

Henry W. Kratz

yet, June 22, 1881, the board of directors of Ursinus college, upon the recommendation of its faculty, conferred on him "the honorary degree of Master of Arts, for his personal worth and merits as a scholar."

HON. HENRY W. KRATZ, a member of the house of representatives of Pennsylvania, is a son of Valentine and Mary (Weikel) Kratz, and was born in Perkiomen township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, July 31, 1834. The name of Kratz would indicate its German origin and its frequent occurrence on the records of the county for over a century is evidence of the early settlement of the emigrant Kratz, and the respectability and individual worth of his numerous descendants through successive generations down to the present time. Valentine Kratz came from Germany and settled at an early day in what is now Montgomery county, where his son Valentine was born, reared and died. Valentine, the younger, was the son of Isaac Kratz, the grandfather of the subject of this sketch. Isaac Kratz was a farmer, and removed from Perkiomen to Upper Providence township, where he died, aged eighty-one years. He was a Mennonite and a Republican, and wedded Catharine Hunsicker, by whom he had eight children : Valentine, William, Isaac, Rebecca Godshall, Catharine Rittenhouse and Mary Bean, Elizabeth Young and Ann Cassel. Valentine Kratz, (father) was born October 10, 1810, in Perkiomen township, and died at Trappe in 1891. He was a shoemaker by trade, conducting a shop at the Trappe for many years and later on became a farmer. He was a Republican in politics, and a member of the Reformed church, and wedded Mary Weikel, who is a daughter of Henry Weikel, and still survives her husband, being now (1895) in the eighty-sixth year of her age.

To Valentine and Mary Kratz were born five children : Hon. Henry W., Catharine, born March 6, 1837, died September 7, 1841 ; Sarah, born May 3, 1840, died August 24, 1841 ; Dora, born September 27, died March 16, 1845 ; and Elizabeth, born April 2, 1846, and died February 8, 1859.

Henry W. Kratz, at six years of age, was taken by his parents to the Trappe, in Upper Providence township, where he resided up to 1889, in which year he removed to his present residence at Norristown. He attended the common schools and then entered Washington Hall Collegiate institute, where he received a thorough English and partial classical education. His first employment was teaching, which he followed continuously for eighteen years in his own and adjoining townships. During the earlier years of his teaching, Mr. Kratz took up surveying and conveyancing, which he followed largely from 1862 to 1882, and since his removal to Norristown he has been engaged in conveyancing and in the real estate and insurance business. His political career dates back to the same year (1862), when he turned from professional to business life. He served from 1862 to 1882, as justice of the peace, was transscribing and message clerk of the State senate during the session of 1866–7, held the office of recorder of deeds from 1882 to 1885, and in 1894 was elected as a member of the house of representatives of Pennsylvania. In business he became as prominent as he was in political affairs, and in 1874 helped organize the National bank of Schwenksville, of which he was a director until 1891, when he was elected to the

office of president, which position he still holds. He has served as a manager in different insurance, bridge and turnpike companies, is treasurer of the *Times* Publishing company at Norristown, and was a member of the State Board of Agriculture from 1887 to 1893.

When he retired from teaching he did not lose his interest in educational matters, and since 1868 has been officially connected with the board of trustees of Ursinus college, of which he has served as president since 1873.

On May 26, 1857, Mr. Kratz married Myra Bean, a daughter of William Bean, and their children are: Mary T., wife of Augustus Bomberger; Kate B., wife of Horace T. Royer; Harry E., who married Mary Royer, and now holds a position in the office of the Pennsylvania Railroad company at Philadelphia; and Irwin B. and Jane, who are both deceased.

Mrs. Kratz died October 17, 1888, aged sixty years, and on February 17, 1892, Mr. Kratz wedded Emily Todd, of Philadelphia, who was born October 20, 1835. She is a daughter of Hon. John Todd, who was a native and resident of Montgomery county. Hon. John Todd was of Scotch descent. He was born in Upper Providence township, May 25, 1779, and died July 2, 1862. He was a farmer and Presbyterian, and served as sheriff for two terms and member of the legislature for one term. His children were: Dr. John, of Pottstown; Dr. Samuel, of Boyertown; Brooke, a resident of Pottstown; William, a resident of Norristown. Mrs. Emily Kratz and Christiana Royer, whose husband, the late Horace Royer, was a State senator in 1866 and 1867, are both deceased.

Henry W. Kratz is a member of St. Luke's Reformed church, of which he has been a trustee for fifteen years, and of whose choir he has been the leader for twenty-five years. He is a member of Warren Lodge No. 310, Free and Accepted Masons; Norristown Chapter No. 190, Royal Arch Masons; and Hutchinson Commandery No. 32, Knights Templar. He is also a member of the Montgomery County Historical society. In politics Mr. Kratz has always been a Republican He served for two terms as chairman of the Republican county committee, as a member of the house of representatives of Pennsylvania, and he has always carefully guarded the interes's of his constituents. During the house session of 1895, he was a member of the committee on banks, insurance, education and library, and served efficiently.

THOMAS B. EVANS, ex-burgess of Norristown, and editor and proprietor of the *National Defender*, of the same place, is a son of Francis B. and the late Martha (Pluck) Evans, and was born February 12, 1851, near Fairview, Lower Providence township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania.

His great-grandfather was a native of the principality of Wales, whence he emigrated to this country and settled in Montgomery county. George Evans, grandfather, was born in that county, and followed the avocations of a farmer in Lower Providence township, where he died. His children were: George, Andrew, Thomas and Francis B. Francis B. Evans, father, was born in Lower Providence township, this county, in the year 1828. He has followed, during his career, a number of industrial pursuits in the county

and now resides at Centre Square, in Whitpain township. He is a member of the Reformed church, and of Blooming Rose Castle, No. 44, Knights of the Mystic Chain.

His marriage to Martha Pluck, daughter of Jesse Pluck, of Whitpain, was blessed in the birth of the following children: Thomas B., Anna Rebecca, Sarah Jane, George W., Mary Elizabeth, deceased; Margaret McCann, deceased; and Harriet.

Thomas B. Evans received his scholastic training and education in the township and Norristown public schools. He worked upon the farm until fifteen years of age, when he entered upon an apprenticeship to the trade of a printer, in the composing rooms of the *National Defender*, at Norristown. After serving three years and thoroughly mastering the details of the "Art preservative of all arts", he followed it as a journeyman for a time in some of the leading offices of Philadelphia, and then for six months ran a job printing business on his own account, on the corner of Tenth and Ridge Avenue, in Philadelphia. He then sold out and came to Norristown as foreman for S. B. Helffenstein, at that time proprietor and publisher of the *Defender*. Mr. Evans remained in that capacity until January, 1893, when, upon the death of Mr. Helffenstein, he became half owner of the paper, which he has since published, the widow of the late S. B. Helffenstein retaining half interest. The *National Defender* is Democratic in political policy, has a wide circulation in the county, is newsy and spicy, and wields a potent influence in the political affairs of the county. Mr. Evans is a Democrat in politics and is prominent and influential in the councils of his party. In 1890 he was the nominee of his party for the office of burgess of Norristown, and, although his party is eight hundred in the minority in that borough, yet he was elected by one hundred and thirty majority, a fact attesting in an eminent degree, to his popularity with those who know him best. In the fraternal world he stands high and is deservedly popular; he is a member of Norristown Lodge No. 32, Knights of Pythias; Consonance Chamber No. 3, Knights of Friendship; Blooming Rose Castle No. 44, Knights of the Mystic Chain; Lynwood Lodge No. 154, A. O. U. W.; Norris Circle No. 3, of the B. U. H.; and Norristown Conclave, No. 125, I. O. H. He is an officer in the church organization of the Trinity Lutheran church, and is a director of the Second Building and Loan association at Norristown.

On December 17, 1873, he married Anna C., a daughter of Jonathan Helffenstein, and two children bless their union: Addie B., and Lavinia M.

WILLIAM A. SCHULTZ, who owns the old Schultz homestead in Worcester township, is a son of Samuel and Susanna (Anders) Schultz, and was born in Lower Providence township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, February 14, 1838. Samuel Schultz was of German descent, and his parents were residents of Montgomery county. He was born in Upper Hanover township, Montgomery county, and died October 21, 1883. In early life he learned the trade of cigar maker, which he never followed regularly. Being more inclined toward agricultural pursuits, he gave his time principally to the management and tilling of his farm. He was a zealous member of the Schwenkfelter church of Lower District, in which he had held the

office of deacon for many years. He was prosperous as a farmer and in his business affairs, and married Susanna Anders. To their union were born five children, two sons and three daughters: William A., Sarah, now dead; Susanna, wife of David Kriebel, Amanda, who married William H. Seipt; and Samuel A., now deceased. Mrs. Schultz was a daughter of Abraham Anders. She was born October 2, 1815, in Worcester township, and passed away in the sixty-ninth year of her age.

William A. Schultz passed his youthful days on the home where he has resided ever since. He was married. Reared to habits of industry and proper economy, and inheriting his father's taste for agricultural pursuits, it was but natural that when he left the common schools he should turn his attention to farming. He has met with good success as a farmer. His farm of ninety-five acres is good farming and grazing land, and lies in a neighborhood where school and church and market are convenient. Within the last few years Mr. Schultz has made investments outside of land and beyond farming, and which have yielded fair returns. At the present time he is serving as a director of the First National bank of Lansdale, of which he has been a stockholder for several years. He is a Republican in politics, and has served several times as assistant assessor in the important triennial assessments of Worcester township. He has also served several times as an election inspector at his voting polls.

On October 18, 1859, Mr. Schultz married Maria Heebner, a member of the old Heebner family of this county, and a daughter of Anthony S. and Lidia (Krauss) Heebner, of Worcester township. To Mr. and Mrs. Schultz have been born seven children: Mary Ann, who married Abraham K. Drisher; Harrison, now dead; Emma, wife of George Kriebel; Amanda, married Isaiah S. Anders; Amos, who married Lizzie Reiner; Katie, and Samuel. Mr. Schultz and his wife and children are members of the Schwenkfelter church, in which he is a deacon. Mr. Schultz is president of the Schwenckfelter church committee, and has always taken a special interest in all kinds of church work. Maria, wife of William A. Schultz, died February 1, 1889.

M. T. CRESSMAN, now engaged in the wholesale and retail cigar manufacing business, was born at Zieglersville, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, November 6, 1839, and is a son of Jesse and LaAnna Cressman. The Cressman family is of German descent. Grandfather Cressman resided near Tylersport, this county, where he died at an advanced age. Their children were Mrs. Reiter, Mrs. Nace, Mrs. Donnehaver, and Jesse (father), who died at the age of seventy-three years. Jesse Cressman was a shoemaker and learned his trade in Philadelphia, but afterwards removed to Zieglersville, where he remained until his death. He was a Democrat in politics, and a member of the Lutheran church. He reared a family of eleven children: Henry, deceased; William, Jacob, John, Jesse, Hannah, Paul, Kate, Mary, deceased; Elizabeth, deceased; and Sarah, now deceased.

M. T. Cressman, after receiving his education in the common schools, became an apprentice to the cigar manufacturing business, which occupation he has followed since 1854. In 1860, he removed to Norristown and in 1875 he became engaged in

both a wholesale and retail business. On December 24, 1863, he married a daughter of Aaron Erb, who resided at Norristown at the time of his death. This union has been blessed with four children: Mary L., who is the wife of George T. Bult, a resident of Norristown; Lizzie B., who married Henry Park, a stenographer, of Philadelphia; Carrie; Ella B., who married W. M. King, a draughtsman, who resides in Norristown.

Mr. Cressman is a strong Democrat and takes an active part in the interests of the Evangelical church, of which he is a member and trustee. He is also a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Curtis Lodge No. 239; a member of the Junior Order of American Mechanics, Royal Council No. 37; and a member of the Knights of the Golden Eagle, Montgomery Castle No. 34.

DR. JOHN R. BAER, a rising and popular physician of Montgomery county, now located at Sassamanville, is a son of Benjamin and Catharine (Bucher) Baer, and was born May 3, 1868, at Topton, Berks county, Pennsylvania. The old world home of the ancesters of Dr. Baer was among the Rhineland provinces of Germany, whence they came several generations ago to the United States, settling in eastern Pennsylvania. His paternal grandfather, Charles Baer, was a distinguished citizen of Berks county, living at the time of his death in 1895, in retirement at Fleetwood, Berks county. His children were: George, Jonathan, William, Benjamin, Henry, Elizabeth, Hettie and Amanda.

Benjamin C. Baer (father), was born July 13, 1837, in Long Swamp township, Berks county. He was reared upon the paternal acres, attended the public schools and then for a time was engaged as a teacher in the same. He then took a position as clerk in a mercantile establishment, was station agent at Topton for a time and then went into mercantile pursuits on his own account along the lines of coal, grain and lumber. Later he engaged in the mining and shipping of iron-ore and as a wholesale dealer and shipper of coal. He was a Democrat politically and took a very active part for the success of his party, serving ten years as a member of the election board, a number of years as a member of the town council of Topton, school director at various times, and in 1880 was elected justice of the peace of that borough, which office he filled with efficiency and credit until he resigned in 1884. In every position in which he was placed he displayed good judgment, unusual business ability and a conscientious disposition to serve the people. Hence in 1884 he was elected a member of the Pennsylvania house of representatives, a position his business experience rendered him eminently competent to fill. His marriage with Catharine Bucher resulted in the birth of five sons and two daughters: Charles C., deceased; B. Frank, George H., John R., Katie L., Carrie C. and N. Fred.

Dr. Baer received his preliminary education in the Topton public schools, Kutztown State Normal school and under private tutors in Philadelphia. Having resolved to study medicine, he entered Jefferson Medical college, from which he graduated in the class of 1893. The year prior to his graduation, he was assistant demonstrator of chemistry in his *Alma Mater*, and also during the year prior to his graduation was assistant medical clinician at the German hospital of that city. In 1893 he

came to Sassamanville and entered vigorously on the practice of the profession for which he had made such ample preparation and although in the practice but two years, has built up a large clientele. His education has not stopped with his common and normal school training and technical preparation for his profession but has been kept up by general reading and study, especially in the languages, so that he now ranks as one of the finest linguists of the county, speaking with ease and fluency five different languages and has contributed articles of literary merit to various journals of the profession. He is a member of Washington Camp No. 474, P. O. S. of A., and of the Reformed church. On October 14, 1893, he married Elizabeth D., a daughter of H. H. Remminger, proprietor of the Congo hotel at Congo, this county. One child, Evelyn May, blesses this union.

BENJAMIN F. LEIDY, cashier of the Farmers' National Bank, at Pennsburg, is a son of Josiah W. and Caroline (Cope) Leidy, and was born August 30, 1852, in Hilltown township, Bucks county, Pennsylvania.

He is of German lineage, his great-grandfather was Henry Leidy, and his grandfather was George Leidy, who lived near Line Lexington, in Hilltown township, Bucks county, where he was a farmer by avocation. He married a lady by the name of Wambold, and lived in the township of his nativity all his life.

Josiah W. Leidy was born in Hilltown township, on the old Leidy homestead, in 1816, and died in the same township on September 12, 1892, in the seventy-seventh year of his age. He was reared upon his father's farm, where he remained until the death of the latter in 1832. After receiving such education as the schools of his township afforded, he commenced teaching and followed it several years—this and farming were the pursuits of his life.

He was an active Democrat all his life, and upon two occasions his party showed its confidence in him by electing him to office, first as a member of the board of county commissioners, in 1862, and second as clerk of the Orphans' Court, in 1881, serving three years in each office to the entire satisfaction of the public. He was a man of good judgment and many strong qualities of character, that made him an exceptionably desirable public servant. He was an active official of the Reformed church, holding the office of deacon, elder, etc., and always took a commendable interest in every phase of church work. He was not only prominent in the political and religious circles, but in the industrial world as well. He was president of the Telford and County Line Turnpike company, treasurer of the Hilltown and Sellersville Turnpike company, and Manager of the Line Lexington Fire Insurance company.

In 1843 he married Caroline, a daughter of George Cope, and they became the parents of the following children: Mary, who wedded Samuel W. Leidy, both are now deceased; Edwin C., a teacher and justice of the peace at Telford, Bucks county; Benjamin F., subject; and Lydia, the wife of H. S. Beidler, a member of the large flouring mill firm of Swartley Bros. & Co., at Doylestown, Bucks county.

Benjamin F. Leidy received his education in the township schools and in the Carversville academy. He then took up the profession of teaching, and followed it for a

term of seventeen years, holding at the time he gave up the profession, the State's commission to teach in any of the public schools of the commonwealth—a State certificate. In 1885 he was elected cashier of the Farmers' National bank of Pennsburg, a position he has held to the present time. Mr. Leidy is a Democrat, politically, a member of Pennsburg Lodge No. 449, I. O. O. F., and of the Reformed church, being an ardent and active member, serving as deacon, and in connection with his church work, he has served ten years as superintendent of the Sabbath schools.

On February 20, 1875, he married Miss Annie E. Strassburger, a daughter of Reuben Y. Strassburger, a lumber dealer of Schwenksville, this county. One child, Robert Clement, blesses this marital union.

WILLIAM A. WELKER, a prosperous merchant and highly respected citizen of Red Hill, this county, is a son of John and Maria (Roth) Welker, and was born in Marlborough township, this county, in 1840. The Welkers, of German extraction, were among the early pioneer settlers of what is now Upper Montgomery county, their settling there was co-existent with the possession of that region by the Indians. The paternal grandfather of William A. Welker was John Welker, who was a farmer and lived near what is known as Red Hill, in Upper Hanover township, this county, all his life. He lived in an age when Jefferson and Jackson were the idols of their party, and among their worshippers and admirers—because of the principles they represented—was John Welker. He was one of the early supporters of the Goshenhoppen Reformed church near East Greenville. He married Rebecca Reiter, and their children were as follows: John, father; George, Lovina, and one that died in infancy.

John Welker (father), was born in Upper Hanover township, in 1815, and died August 24, 1860. He learned the trade of a blacksmith when a young man, and during his early life followed it for a number of years, when he purchased a farm and devoted his attention essentially to the pursuits of agriculture. He resided at the time of his death in Upper Hanover township upon the farm now owned by William A. Welker. He was an active man in business, political and religious circles, an ardent Democrat and devout member of the Reformed church. His children were but two in number: William A., and Henry J.

Henry J. Welker, son of John and Maria Welker, was born November 29, 1850, in Upper Hanover township, Montgomery county, Pa. He began to teach public school at the age of sixteen and taught six years in Marlborough township, Montgomery county, Pa., and at Telford, Pa. He prepared for college at Mt. Pleasant seminary, Boyertown, Pa., and entered Ursinus college, graduating in 1876. He pursued a theological course in the Ursinus school of theology, was licensed to preach the gospel by Goshenhoppen classis, and ordained to the holy ministry by Tohickon classis as a regular minister of the Reformed church. He served the Springfield charge, Bucks county, Pa., for seven years with satisfactory results. In 1884 he was called to the Tulpehocken charge, partly in Lebanon and Berks counties. This charge was at first composed of five congregations, but he succeeded in having it divided in 1891. He is now serving two of the oldest congregations in the Reformed church in this county, Tulpehocken and Kemerting's.

He has also lately been instrumental in organizing a congregation and building a church at Avon, Pa., which he is supplying in connection with his regular charge.

William A. Welker received his mental training and education in the public schools of Upper Hanover township and in a normal and classical school at Quakertown, Bucks county, where he won first prize—Webster's Unabridged Dictionary—for meritorious work accomplished. Leaving school, he was engaged for thirteen years in teaching during the winter months and farming during the summer. Owning since the old homestead farm of fifty-eight acres, at what has been known as Welker's station, on the Perkiomen railroad. In 1874 he purchased the farm upon which he now resides at Red Hill, containing fifty acres and comprising a residence and good store property. Since occupying this property he has conducted a general mercantile business, the first five years in partnership with M. K. Gilbert, but since then on his own account, and does a large and successful business. In addition to his mercantile business, Mr. Welker is prominently identified with a number of other industrial enterprises. He has been a director of the Goshenhoppen and Green Lane Turnpike company for twenty-six years and secretary for three years; manager of the Perkiomen and Sumneytown Turnpike company for twenty-one years, and has been the agent for twenty years of the Perkiomen Mutual Fire and Storm Insurance company for the district of Upper Hanover township. He also was acting assistant postmaster at Red Hill, Montgomery county, Pa., for over seventeen years, and on February 1, 1893, by Hon. John Wanamaker, postmaster general, was appointed to that office, which he still holds.

Mr. Welker is a Democrat politically, but believing the use of intoxicating drinks is an evil threatening not only the prosperity, but the very perpetuity of the nation, he is heartily in sympathy with every move which has for its object the regulating of this curse. In 1868 Mr. Welker was commissioned a justice of the peace of this place by Governor Geary, and recommissioned by Governor Hartranft, serving two terms or ten years in all. Mr. Welker is a member of the Reformed church, and has served as secretary of the church organization at Pennsburg, Pa., for twenty-five years, and as deacon for twelve years, always taking an active part in every form of church work and in every move or measure which in his judgment had as its object the good of the community, either spiritual or material. On February 2, 1861, he married Angeline, a daughter of John Heebner, and five children bless this marriage relation: John Allen, deceased; George M., who is in the mercantile business with his father. He married Anna Pfleiger (formerly written Pfluger), and two children, Melvin G., and Grover L., were born to them; Alice L., the third child, is a teacher by profession, a graduate of the class of 1888, of the Kutztown State normal school; Harvey A., graduated from Ursinus college at Collegeville, this county, in the class of 1893, taught school one term and then entered the New York Theological seminary, and is assistant at a mission station of that city. His wife's maiden name was Anna Stauffer; William H. is at home, engaged in the store.

Mr. Welker has always been an active Sunday-school worker, serving for nearly thirty years as superintendent of the Sabbath school at Pennsburg. He possesses the confidence of the community in which he lives, who regard him not only as a man

of strict integrity and probity, but as a man of rare good judgment and business ability, and he is frequently called upon to act in the confidence relations of assignee, executor, and guardian. He is a useful and honored man of the community.

JOSEPH M. HILLES. A good representative of the younger business men of Norristown, is the subject of this sketch, Joseph M. Hilles, a merchant and leading carriage dealer of the firm of Hilles & Taggart, at 115 DeKalb street. He is a son of Benjamin L. and Elizabeth (Foulke) Hilles, and was born June 13, 1870, at Ambler, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania.

The Hilles family comes from a long line of Welsh Quaker lineancy, the emigrant of whom transplanted the name with the same motives that were at the foundations of the founding of the Society on our soil; tradition or history reveals little authentic of the earlier history of the family in this country. David Hilles, grandfather, was for many years a business man of Norristown, a Republican in his political allegiance, and a member of the Society of Friends. He married Sarah Lee Lightfoot, and had four children: Benjamin L., father; William, Susan, and Phoebe.

Benjamin L. Hilles (father), was born at Maiden Creek, Berks county, Pennsylvania; afterwards he removed with his parents to Montgomery county, where he received his education in the public and select schools of Norristown, and was reared to manhood. He has resided here ever since, and is at present associated with the firm of Caswell & Moore, extensive merchants, at Phœnixville, Chester county, Pennsylvania. He is a staunch Republican, but never sought political favor, taking only such part in politics as every good citizen is expected to take. Mr. Hilles kept up his religious tradition of the family in his adherence to the Society of Friends.

His marriage to Elizabeth Foulke Moore, February 23, 1869, was blessed with one child, Joseph M., the subject of this sketch. Samuel Moore, maternal grandfather of Joseph M. Hilles, was a farmer of near Valley Forge, Upper Merion township, this county. He married Ann, daughter of Joseph Foulke, of Gwynedd, this county, who for a number of years conducted a popular boarding school for boys at his home.

Samuel Moore latterly retired from the farm and active business pursuits and removed thence to Philadelphia, where he resided up to his death. Elizabeth Foulke, mother of the subject of this sketch, was one of a family of four children, two boys and two girls: Richard, deceased; Henry Clay, deceased; Hannah, who became the wife of Edward Hollingsworth, and resides in Maryland; Elizabeth, mother of subject, attended the public schools of her native township and afterwards furthered her studies at Hilborn Boarding school at Abbington, Montgomery county. She is a zealous and devout member of the Society of Friends, and a regular attendant at the meeting at Norristown.

We will now come back to the subject proper of this biographical notice, Joseph M. Hilles, who received his preliminary training in the Valley Friends' school, Chester county, Pennsylvania, and subsequently attended the Friends' Central High school, Philadelphia, where he completed his educational training. Upon leaving school he launched into the produce business in the Farmers' market at Norristown. Here he conducted a successful business up to 1891,

at which time he associated with him Mr. Joseph Taggart, operating under the trading name of Hilles & Taggart, and established what is now the leading carriage emporium in Norristown. They located at 115 DeKalb street, where they have erected a large salesroom with increased facilities for accommodating their large and constantly growing trade. Mr. Hilles is a birthright member and advocate of the Society of Friends and a regular attendant at its meetings at Norristown.

GEORGE R. ROEBUCK, superintendent of the Metropolitan Life Insurance company at Norristown, is a son of Joseph and Martha (Bates) Roebuck and was born in 1846 at Ellard, near Huddersfields, Yorkshire, England. The parents of Mr. Roebuck, dying when he was quite young, he was early thrown upon his own resources and did not have many advantages for securing educational training, most of it being such as he was able to get by attendance upon the night schools. When but a mere boy he was employed in and about the mines of his native country until seventeen years of age, when he learned the trade of a weaver which he followed in his native country until 1871. Upon the latter date he came to the United States with a friend and soon secured employment as a weaver in the Woolen Mills of Schofield, at Manayunk, which position he held five years, and then engaged in the green grocery business at Manayunk for three years. He then took the initiation step that led him into the business in which he is now so very successfully engaged.

He began soliciting for a life insurance company. He followed this line of business six months when he was promoted to assistant superintendent at Manayunk, which position he filled up to March, 1881, when he was made assistant superintendent of the Prudential Life Insurance company, at Norristown, remaining with that company but a short time. He took a similar position with the Metropolitan Company, at Norristown, carefully guarding the interests of that firm in that capacity until 1887. Upon the latter date, because of the fidelity and efficiency he had displayed in every detail of the business, he was promoted to the position he now holds. His position is a most important one, his territory comprising the following counties: Berks, Bucks, Montgomery and Chester. These are populous and wealthy counties, and contain a population that does a vast amount of insuring, and to supervise the work of which requires the display of more than ordinary execution, ability and force.

He has in his employ and under his direct supervision, an army of sixty-five agents.

Mr. Roebuck is a Republican in political principles, and a member of the Oak street Methodist Episcopal church ; he has served the church organization as trustee and steward and at the present time is superintendent of the Sabbath school, and has always taken an active and commendable interest in every phase of church work. He is also a member of the Order of Sons of St. George (was the first president of the order held in Manayunk), and the Excelsior Building and Loan Association.

July 29, 1873, he married Anna Kinder, and four children bless their union: Joseph, Edward, George and William Arthur, deceased. The life of Mr. Roebuck is a striking illustration of what a man can

accomplish by perseverance and indomitable will. His record is an exemplification of that aphorism: "There is always room at the top."

WILLIAM F. SMITH, a present justice of the peace of Conshohocken, is a son of Aaron and Sarah W. (Wilkinson) Smith, and was born at Eldrige Hill, Gloucester county, New Jersey, July 27, 1840. Aaron Smith was a native of Medford, New Jersey, in which State he resided until his death, at eighty-three years of age. He married Sarah W. Wilkinson, and their children were: Mary G., of Germantown; James, dead; Es her A., William F., (subject) and Norris W., who is employed in the Northern Central railroad station, in the city of Baltimore, Maryland. Mrs. Smith, who died July 17, 1892, aged eighty-three years, was a daughter of Josiah Wilkinson, who was a native and lifelong resident of Willistown and Goshen township, Chester county. Mr. Wilkinson served in the United States navy under Commodore Decatur, and was on the *Constitution* when it fought some of its hardest battles. He was a Whig and Friend, and his remains lie in the Goshen Friends burying ground. He was six feet two inches in height, of fine personal appearance, and made a fine naval record for efficiency and bravery. Mr. Wilkinson married for his first wife, Annie Wayne, a half sister of General Anthony Wayne, and after her death wedded Mary Scullion, by whom he had thirteen children, the second of whom was Mrs. Sarah W. Smith.

William F. Smith was so situated in boyhood that he received but eighteen months schooling in all, and at twelve years of age went to work on a farm in East Goshen township, Chester county, where he worked for some time. He then learned the trade of house painter, at West Chester, this State, and found steady employment at that trade up to 1880, excepting the time he served in the Union Army. Mr. Smith has resided since 1867 at Conshohocken, where he has served continuously as justice of the peace since July 1, 1880, and as burgess, 1879, 1890 and 1892. He was one of the first when the late Civil war commenced, to offer his services to the government. He enlisted on April 19, 1861, in company G, Second Pennsylvania Infantry, but in the same year was discharged at Chambersburg, this State, on account of sickness. After recovering his health to some extent, he re-enlisted on September 20, 1861, joining Co. H, Ninety-Seventh Pennsylvania Infantry, and served until November 15, 1862, when he was discharged on the regimental surgeon's certificate for physical disability, and debarred from any future re-enlistment.

William F. Smith has always been a Republican in political affairs, and believes in the faith and practice of the Society of Friends.

He is a member of Fritz Lodge, No. 420, Free and Accepted Masons; Conshohocken Conclave No. 233, Heptasophs; Washita Tribe No. 53, Improved Order of Red Men; Montgomery Lodge No. 17, Knights of Birmingham; Washington Camp No. 221, Patriotic Order Sons of America; and George Smith Post No. 79, Grand Army of the Republic, of which he is senior vice commander.

The Smith family is of English, Irish and Scotch descent. Burgess Smith's grandfather, John Smith, lived near Mt. Holly, New Jersey, and served as a quarter-

master in Washington's army. He was a man of means and furnished supplies to the American army when it lay near Monmouth. He married a Miss Crawford, who lived to be ninety-two years of age.

JOHN D. WEBER, general merchant at Centre Point, and postmaster of Worcester, is a son of George M. and Matilda (Davis) Weber, and was born in Worcester township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, December 12, 1859. George M. Weber is of German descent, and was born and reared in Worcester township, where he has always resided. He is a farmer by occupation, and a school teacher by profession, having taught several years. He has also served for some years as a member of the township school board. He is a Democrat in politics, and married Matilda Davis, whose father, Henry Davis, was a resident of Worcester. Mr. and Mrs. Weber have four children: Annie, wife of Theodore Bassett; Frank P., John D., subject; and Mahlon B.

John D. Weber attended the common schools of his native township until he was sixteen years of age, and then commenced life for himself as a clerk in the general mercantile store of H. M. Zeigler, of Center Point. He spent four years with Mr. Zeigler, and then went to West Point station, where he served as a clerk for two years. At the end of that time he returned to Center Point, and accepted a position in the store of W. H. Baker, which he soon resigned to enter the general mercantile establishment of S. W. Hendricks. In a few months after entering Mr. Hendricks' employ he was admitted as a partner in the business under the firm name of Hendricks & Weber. The partnership continued up to the spring of 1894, when he purchased Mr. Hendricks' interest in the store, and since then has conducted the business for himself. He keeps a full assortment of all kinds of general merchandise, and makes a specialty of any line of goods for which there is a particular or general demand in his community. He has met with success in his line of business and has a good patronage.

On April 10, 1883, Mr. Weber married Ida J. Beaver, who was a daughter of Dr. William Beaver, of Centre Point, and died February 14, 1891. After her death Mr. Weber again married on August 16, 1892, wedding Emma K. Brecht, daughter of John E. and Sarah K. (Kriebel) Brecht, of Worcester township. By his first marriage Mr. Weber had two children: George Sebing, and Samuel, who died, and one child by his second marriage, Sarah B.

In politics John D. Weber is a Democrat. He is a good business man, but no politician. He and his wife both are members of the Reformed church.

JOHN DAVIS, M. D., who has been in continuous practice at Pottstown for a third of a century, is a son of Aaron and Hannah (Woodward) Davis, and was born January 19, 1833, near West Chester, Chester county, Pennsylvania. The Davis family is of English origin and rank among the oldest settlers of Chester county, while on the maternal side Dr. Davis' ancestors were of Welsh extraction. Aaron Davis (father), was a prominent Chester county farmer, a Republican in politics, and a nonsectarian in religious belief and church membership. He died in 1867, aged sixty-

three years. In 1832 he married Hannah Woodward, a daughter of Jacob Woodward, of Chester county, and to them was born a family of five children, four sons and one daughter, only three of whom now survive. Mrs. Davis is still living, being now well advanced in the 88th year of her age.

Dr. John Davis spent his early years on the farm, and acquired a good English education in the public schools and by private study. He engaged in teaching for several years, and was also connected with the mercantile business in Chester county until about 1858, at which time he began the study of medicine. After careful preparation he matriculated at the Electic Medical college, of Philadelphia, where he remained until 1862, when he was graduated with the degree of M. D. Dr. Davis soon afterward began the practice of his profession at Pottstown, Pennsylvania, and has ever since devoted his time and attention to the healing art in that city. He has now been in the professional harness for more than thirty-three years, and in length of service outranks every other physician of the place. His practice extends over much of Montgomery and Chester counties.

On August 26, 1858, Dr. Davis was wedded to Sarah A. Hoopes, a daughter of Enos Hoopes, of Chester county, and they had three children: Helen M., a graduate of the Women's Medical college, of Philadelphia, who married Dr. Alfred Mullhaupt, of Elk county, this State, and is practicing medicine with her husband; Mary, and Anna, both of whom died in infancy. Mrs. Sarah Davis died September 26, 1864, aged thirty years. On March 15, 1866, Dr. Davis was married again, his second wife being Elizabeth Messimer, a daughter of James Messimer, of Pottstown. To this union was born six children, five of whom died in childhood. The only one who reached maturity is Dr. William J. Davis, a young practicing physician of Pottstown, who graduated from the University of Pennsylvania in 1889.

Dr. John Davis is a Prohibitionist in politics, and a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, which he has served as trustee for several years and as steward for nearly the third of a century. His professional career has been one of merited success, and he is a cultured Christian gentleman.

JOHN FRY, the well known hat merchant and secret society man of Norristown, is the only son of John and Mary (Gibbs) Fry, and was born in this borough in 1855. The family is of German extraction, and have resided in Norristown for more than a century. The paternal grandfather of the subject of this sketch bore the same name, John Fry, and lived here all his life. One of his sons, named for himself, was John Fry (father), who was also born and reared in the borough of Norristown. He was long identified with secret societies, and for many years had charge of the hall belonging to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows in Norristown. He was the first organizer of the Red Men in this part of Pennsylvania, and was the first grand sachem of the first lodge of that order established here. He was also a member of the Masonic order, and much of his time was devoted to secret society work, in which he bore an active part for many years. He married Mary Gibbs, to which union was born a family of four children, one son and three daughters: Mariah G., Sarah E., John and Maggie J. The father died in 1869, aged sixty-five, and the mother passed from earth in 1882, at the age of sixty-three.

John Fry, their only son, was reared in his native borough of Norristown, and obtained his education in the public schools. After leaving school he engaged in house painting and followed that occupation for a dozen years. He then embarked in the hat business at Norristown, which he conducted until 1887, when he accepted the position of tax collector for Montgomery county. After one term in this office he returned to the hat trade and has successfully conducted the latter business to the present time. His store is located on Main street, and he has built up a fine trade, which extends to all parts of the surrounding country.

Politically Mr. Fry has always adhered to the Democratic party, but has been liberal and broad minded in his views, and inclined to independence in local politics. In church relations he is a Baptist, and has served as librarian of the Sunday-school connected with his church. He is a member of Montgomery Lodge No. 57, Independent Order of Odd Fellows; Charity Lodge No. 190, Free and Accepted Masons; and of the Improved Order of Red Men, of Norristown, and is also past grand sachem of the latter order in Pennsylvania. He has always taken an active interest in secret society organizations, and is widely known in connection with the various orders in which he holds membership.

Mr. Fry was united in marriage with Maggie F. Ashurrs, to whom have been born two children, both sons: John and James A.

ISAAC M. SCHELLINGER, president of the Diamond Glass company of Royersford, is a native of the city of Philadelphia, where he was born December 9, 1863. The family from which he is descended is one of the oldest in New Jersey and Pennsylvania, their settlements here antedating by many years the arrival of William Penn in the new world.

Cornelius Schellinger, paternal great-grandfather of the subject of this sketch, was a resident of New Jersey, who settled in Philadelphia and acquired title to landed property there by a grant from King Charles II, through Lord Lovelace, then governor of the province, which is now the state of Pennsylvania, in 1682. He was one of the founders of the old Swedes church located at the corner of Front and Christian streets, that city, which is now owned and used by the Episcopalians. His son of the same name (great-grandfather) was one of the seventy-eight representatives of the people of New Jersey who voted to ratify the Declaration of Independence in 1776. One of the sons of the latter, Aaron Schellinger (grandfather) served as a soldier in the war of the revolution, and also took part as a drill master and recruiting officer in the war of 1812. Aaron Schellinger married Emily Bennett, and had a family of nine children, one of whom was Jeremiah B. Shellinger (father), who was born at Cape May city, New Jersey, in 1830. After attaining manhood he engaged in the lumber business, and married Louisa B Merritt, also a native of Cape May, and a daughter of Captain Isaac P. Merritt. They reared a family of three children, of whom two still survive.

Isaac M. Schellinger spent his boyhood in Philadelphia, where he was prepared for college, and in 1877 entered the academy of Bellefonte, Pennsylvania, from which institution he was graduated in June, 1882. In the fall of 1886, he associated himself with A. A. Murray, Charles Raiser, William Ralston and John Hill, and purchased the

Penn Glass works at Royersford, which then consisted of one furnace. They organized under the name of the Diamond Glass company, Mr. Schellinger being elected president, which office he has ever since occupied. They enlarged the works by constructing three additional glass furnaces and erected several brick buildings, and now employ nearly three hundred workmen. Thus from a comparatively small beginning, these gentlemen have built up one of the most important industrial enterprises in Montgomery county, and much of the success is due to the ability, energy and sound business judgment of its president. In addition to his interests in the Diamond Glass company, Mr. Shellinger is a director of the Home National bank of Royersford, president of the Arctic Refrigerator company of Linfield, president of the Royersford Building and Loan association, and director of the Industrial Savings bank of Royersford.

On May 7, 1888, Mr. Schellinger was married to Jennie L. Farrow, a daughter of William and Ada Farrow, of Cape May, New Jersey. In politics he is a Republican and protectionist, and in religious belief adheres to the Presbyterian church. He is a Free and Accepted Mason, and has served as master of his lodge. He is likewise a Knight of the Golden Eagle and a member of the Improved Order of Red Men.

SAMUEL J. HARTZELL, a baker at Green Lane, this county, is a son of David W. and Mary Ann (Snyder) Hartzell, and was born December 5, 1868, at Anise, New Hanover township, this county. He attended the common schools of the township and obtained an elementary education. Leaving school he learned the trade of a blacksmith and followed it as a means of securing a livelihood three years at Herefordville and Geryville, in Berks county, Pennsylvania. He then learned the baker's trade at Schwenksville, where he followed it for two years, and at Collegeville, this county, for an equal length of time. He came to Green Lane in 1892, and founded his present business, purchasing building, residence and bakery combined.

Mr. Hartzell has paid strict attention to business, and his desire has been to please his customers, and as a result of this he has built up a good business. Politically he is a believer in the principles of the Democratic party, with which he has always voted, and is a devoted member of the Reformed church at Sumneytown.

On February 27, 1891, he married Louisa Kohl, and one child, Isaac Henry, blesses this marriage union.

WILLIAM McKINZIE, A. M., M. D., a well established physician of West Conshohocken, is a son of Hugh and Rose (Todd) McKinzie, and was born in county Antrim, Ireland, November 14, 1841. Hugh McKinsie, his father, came to America in 1843. He was a farmer by occupation and resided successively at Port Kennedy, Cedar Grove, Spring Mill and Philadelphia. He was a Whig and subseqently a Republican. He reared a family of two children: Dr. William and John T., a business man of West Conshohocken. He died at Philadelphia, Pa., October 4, 1887, in the eighty-ninth year of his age. Mrs. McKinzie died March 17, 1866, in the forty-ninth year of her age.

Dr. William McKinzie was reared in Penn-

sylvania, and received his elementary education in the common schools. He was prepared for college under a private tutor, and then entered Lafayette college, of Easton, Pennsylvania, from which well known educational institution he was graduated in the class of 1866, with the degree of A. B. Leaving college he taught in the collegiate institution of Newton, New Jersey, during 1866-67, and the next year became principal of West Jersey Academy, at Bridgeton, N. J., which position he resigned in 1869, on account of ill health. In the last named year he received his degree of A. M. from Lafayette college, and entered the Medical department of the University of Pennsylvania, from which he was graduated in 1871. Immediately after graduation he located at Conshohocken. He has built up a good practice and has made a success of his chosen profession.

Dr. McKinzie is a Republican politically. He has served as a member of council, was the first Republican burgess of West Conshohocken, and served for eight years as postmaster of that place, under President Arthur and Harrison. He is a member of the American Academy of Medicine, which only admits members having the degree of A. M. He is a member and past master of Fritz Lodge No 420, Free and Accepted Masons, of Conshohocken. He is a Presbyterian in religious belief, and has been a member for thirty-four years of the First Presbyterian church, of Conshohocken. He is the present treasurer of Conshohocken Presbyterian church.

On June 21, 1881, Dr. McKinzie married Alice R. Durling, whose father, Jonathan Durling, was a dry goods merchant of Easton, Pennsylvania. Their union has been blessed with one child, a daughter, named Maud.

BENJAMIN GERY, a merchant of East Greenville, is a son of John and Catharine (Graber) Gery, and was born August 20, 1826, in Herford township, Berks county, Pennsylvania. His paternal grandfather was a native of Switzerland, and came to the United States and located, it is thought, in Upper Hanover township, this county, where he followed farming.

Jacob Gery, grandfather, was born in Upper Hanover township, this county, grew to manhood in his native township and for a time followed farming, but later engaged in the manufacture of tiles for roofing purposes. He was a disciple of the Jacksonian Democracy, and a believer in the sectarian principles of Reformed Luther, and was an active church worker, and was a member of the old State militia. He was twice married. To his first wife were born eight children.

John Gery (father), was born in Upper Hanover township, passed his early life in the avocation of farming and later operated a linseed oil mill, and still later kept a hotel at Milford township, in Bucks county, at a place known as Geryville, a village named for Jesse Gery, brother of the subject of this sketch. He was a Democrat, and a member also of the Reformed church, in which he held the offices of elder, deacon, etc. To his marriage relation with Catharine Graber were born twelve children: Reuben, Jesse, Elizabeth, Julia Rader, Sallie, Maria, Gideon, Benjamin, subject; Anna, Kate, Lydia, and Susanna.

Benjamin Gery's intellectual scholastic training was obtained in the Washington Hall seminary at Trappe, in this county. His first work on an individual line of action was as a huckster, buying agricultural products throughout the country and disposing of the same in the Philadelphia

markets. This line of commerce he carried on for about a quarter of a century, when in 1883, he took up farming and pursued it until 1888, when he came to East Greenville, and became a member of the firm of N. K. Gery & Company, lumber, coal, flour, feed and grain dealers. Mr. Gery, as were his ancestors, is of the Democratic faith, and has held the offices of councilman and of school director in the borough of East Greenville. The precepts of the Reformed church are in harmony with his ideas of orthodox dogma, and he is an active worker and church official in the church organization of that sect at the New Goshenhoppen. He married on February 15, 1853, Lavina Krauss, a daughter of Anthony Krauss, a machinist at Kraussdale, Lehigh county, Pennsylvania, and the following named children bless their union: James, deceased; Nevin, Sarah, deceased; Hannah, John, Howard B., deceased; Frank, Clement, Lavinnia, Charles, and Ella.

WILLIAM SLEMMER, of Norristown, who extensively engaged in the oil business, is a son of Adam and Margaretta Slemmer, and was born in New Hanover township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, on January 15, 1820. He received his education in the old academy and in the High schools of Norristown. He remained with his father, in the printing office of the *Norristown Register*, until the latter sold the establishment, when William became editor and general manager of the Norristown *Register*. In 1851 he received the appointment as a clerk in the post-office department, in which capacity he served until the breaking out of the Civil war. At this time he became interested in the oil business, in which he has been engaged ever since. In partnership with his brothers he purchased some oil territory near Titusville, this State, and also on the Tarr farm, Venango county, on which they put down several wells and afterwards removed to where he now resides. Mr. Slemmer is a member of St. John's Episcopal church, and also a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Montgomery Lodge No. 57.

On January 15, 1845, Mr. Slemmer married Hannah Craft, who died in 1890, at the age of seventy-one years. To their union were born three children: William H., who is engaged in commercial business in Philadelphia; Margaret, who died in infancy; and Mary B., widow of the late Frank Miller, a merchant of Norristown.

DAVID S. KERN, a merchant of Pennsburg, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, is a son of Thomas and Sarah (Schuler) Kern, and was born December 16, 1846, near Shimersville, Upper Milford township, Lehigh county, Pennsylvania. He was educated in the common schools and in Fort Washington academy. Leaving school, he took a clerkship in a general store at Shimersville, where he remained several years and four years at Macungie, and then went upon the road for two years as a salesman for Dr. Henry Geiger and Company, of Philadelphia. In 1871 he embarked in the mercantile business at Pennsburg, continuing in that line for a period of six years. At the end of that time he closed out his general mercantile business and confined himself to the sewing machine and carpet trade, to which he added, in 1883, a piano and organ agency, which lines with the

exception of carpets, he carries to the present time.

Mr. Kern is a Republican, and served one term under Harrison's administration as postmaster of Pennsburg. He is a director in the Farmer's National bank, and thoroughly identified with the material and social interests of the borough in which he lives. He is a member of St. Mark's Lutheran church, and has served it four years as deacon, and ten years as treasurer.

The marriage of Mr. Kern and Sallie J. Danner, a daughter of David Danner, of Lehigh county, has resulted in the birth of one child, a daughter, Minnie Jane, wife of Dr. J. P. Hillegass, now a practicing physician at No. 1617 West Dauphin street, Philadelphia.

ISAAC LANDIS, a leading contractor and business man of Norristown, was born in Harleysville, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, December 13, 1843. He is a son of Isaac and Hettie (Haldeman) Landis. The ancestors of Mr. Landis on both the maternal and paternal side have been residents of the State of Pennsylvania for more than two hundred years. The original settlement was made near Germantown, and resulted from the emigration of two brothers, who came from the Kingdom of Prussia, Germany. From these two emigrating ancestors the Landis family in Pennsylvania sprang. Grandfather George Landis was a native of Bucks county, this State; was a farmer by occupation, and is buried in the county of his birth. His son, Isaac Landis, sr., father of this subject, is still living at an advanced age. In early life he was indentured to learn the trade of stone mason, but later in life gave up his trade and pursued the occupation of farming.

Isaac Landis, jr., was brought up in this county and lived here until he attained the age of twenty-one years, at which time he removed to the State of Ohio, where he remained for a period of three years. At the expiration of this time he returned to Norristown and carried on the trade of stone mason, which he had at an earlier period learned with his father. After a period of ten years he started in the stone business, furnishing and contracting for rough and prepared building stone. This naturally led to the business of a contractor, which Mr. Landis from this time forward adopted. He rapidly extended his business in various directions and soon became a leading and enterprising business man.

Mr. Landis is a Republican in politics, and was formerly actively identified with all the interests of that party. He has served as a member of the borough council, takes a lively interest in all matters pertaining to municipal improvement, and is an ardent member of the Evangelical church. During the late Civil war he was a member of Company I, 43rd Pennsylvania militia, and was present at the battle of Gettysburg. His enlistment lasted three months, after which he returned to civic life.

Mr. Landis was married on October 17, 1872, to Matilda Heyberry, of Norristown. To this union has been born five children: Wm. G., John, James G., Carrie, and Mary.

In the summer of 1895 Mr. Landis made a trip to Europe, visiting not only the principal countries and capitals of the continent, but also extending his visit to the Holy Land. He kept a faithful journal of his travels, from which has been gleaned many facts of interest, showing that he made a thorough tour of that part of the globe, which forms the principal topics of the Old and New Testament.

Isaac Sands

Mr. Landis was accompanied by Messrs. M. Geiger, S. B. Fisher and G. W. March on his tour. He sailed from New York on January 29, 1895, on the steamer *Furst Bismarck*, of the Hamburg-American line, bound for the Mediterranean Sea and Egypt. Safely passing through a severe storm, they touched at the Azore Islands, the Madeira Islands, and Gibralter, the great English military station, all of which they thoroughly inspected. On Sunday, February 10th, they arrived at Algiers, a beautiful and picturesque city, and remained one day. On the 11th they sailed for Genoa, and among other interesting points, visited the home of Columbus, which is still standing. Five days later they left for Nice, France, and then visited Monte Carlo, the world notorious gambling resort. The next stop was at the Island of Malta, the island where Paul, the Apostle, is alleged to have been shipwrecked while on his way to Rome. On February 21st they arrived at Alexandria, Egypt, where they bid a final farewell to the steamer *Furst Bismarck*, on which they had lived twenty-four days. In this historic city they remained one day, and among other many strange scenes and customs, witnessed a Mohammedan funeral. That night they went to Cairo, and spent the next day in viewing the points of interest, such as a Mohammedan Temple, Joseph's prison and Joseph's Well, the tombs of the Egyptian kings, and the place where Jesus was supposed to have been kept in hiding when escaping from Herod's wrath. All these historic places are in old Cairo. The island where Pharoah's Palace was supposed to be located, was next visited, and the place where Moses was found in the bullrushes was also viewed. While here the tourists saw the Khedive taking a carriage ride. One of the novel attractions visited was an ostrich farm, where 1300 birds are kept. The second day was spent at the Egyptian museum and the pyramids and sphinx. The destroyed city of Memphis was visited on the 26th. Here were seen pyramids made by the children of Israel out of clay and straw, the tombs of the sacred bulls and other historic objects.

Palestine was the next place to be visited, and the little party of Americans started on the 27th, and the next day at noon arrived at Joppa. The tour of Palestine was very thorough and not a single historic spot or point of ancient interest was omitted in the itinerary. At Joppa they saw the house of Simon, the Tanner, and went on the roof where Peter had the vision of the sheet let down from Heaven. The tomb of Darcas, who was raised from the dead by Peter, and other places were viewed, and on March 1st they left for Jerusalem, passing through the countries of Dan, Judah and Benjamin, and crossing the plains of Sharon, which are twenty miles wide and very beautiful. At Ramah they ascended the tower, from the top of which Mount Carmel was seen. The valley of Ajalon, where Joshua commanded the moon to stand still, was crossed, and then was reached the town of Kirjath Jearim, where the arc of God remained for twenty years. On the way, Ain Kaaim, the birthplace of John, the Baptist; the valley where David killed Goliath and Ammaus, where Christ met two of his disciples after the resurrection, were passed in turn and duly inspected. Jerusalem was reached that evening, and the next day a trip was made to the Dead Sea and the river Jordan. They left the city by the Damascus Gate and crossed the brook Kidron, and on the route passed the Garden of Gethsemane, around the Mount of Olives and Bethany, the home of Mary, Martha and Lazarus.

At the Dead Sea the sites of Sodom and Gomorrah were viewed, as was also the mount where Moses viewed the promised land. They stopped at that place on the banks of the Jordan where John is said to have baptised Jesus. Gilgal, where Joshua's soldiers encamped, was also visited. During the stay in Jerusalem tours were made to Jericho, or its site, and the famous spring, the site where Herod's palace stood, Mt. Nebo, the castle of Macharus, where John was beheaded, the place where Elijah was fed by the raven, the tomb of Lazarus, and the home of Mary and Martha and Simon, the Leper, at Bethany. The Mt. of Olives was also visited, and furnished plenty of food for thought. The tomb of the Virgin Mary; David's Tower; the Armenian Convent; the Chapel of St. James; the Palace of Caiaphas, and the place where Jesus was imprisoned; the room where the Last Supper was eaten; the Temple Area; Robinson's Arch, the wailing place of the Jews, where they weep and pray for deliverance; the Mosque of Omah; the site of Solomon's Temple on Mt. Mariah; the Pools of Bethesda; the Church of St. Anne and the Latin school for boys; the American House; the Ecce Homo Arch are among some of the attractive points visited by this band of American pilgrims. The Church of the Holy Sepulchre, on the site of the crucifixion, was one of the most interesting places viewed. Here is seen the stone of unction on which Jesus was laid after being taken from the cross, while in the centre of the church is the Holy Sepulchre and the stone that closed it. The cleft rock, in which the cross was planted on Mount Calvary, is also here, and everything is sacredly preserved for the edification of Christian travelers. Solomon's stone quarries; the Hill of Evil Counsel; the tomb of Rachel; Solomon's Pools are seen near Bethlehem.

In the city of the Nativity of Christ, there are many places of Biblical interest, and all were visited by the travelers. Among these are the Church of the Nativity, which marks the birthplace of Christ; the Church of St. Catharine, and the Chapel of St. Helena, and all contain numerous relics and historic objects. The Well of Bethlehem, and the place where the angels appeared to the shepherds were seen, and then the dangerous and rough road to Damascus was safely passed. This road is two hundred miles long, and they felt well paid for the risk they ran in taking that route, for they passed many points of interest, such as the King's tomb over Mount Noab; the Greek Convent in Romalah; Bethel, Joseph's Well; Joseph's Tomb; Nablons and the Samaritan Synagogue; the site of the City of Samaria and the Plains of Dothon, where Joseph was put in the pit by his brothers. On the way to Nazareth, the city of Nain, where Christ raised the widow's son, and other towns and points of Bible history were inspected. They remained at Nazareth over Sunday and visited the sites of the Annunciation and Joseph's workshop, and other places, and left on Monday for the lake of Galilee, on the way passing through the city of Canaan and the city of Gath-Hepher, Jonah's home. The Mount of Beautitude, where Christ preached the Sermon of the Mount, was next visited, and then the city of Tiberias, on the banks of the lake of Galilee. The next day they went by boat to the destroyed city of Capernaum, where Christ performed many miracles, and then to Bethsaida, the home of Andrew and Peter, still famous as a fishing town. From here the home of Mary Magdalene, Magdala, was seen. After seeing

A. Kneule

all that was worthy of note, the tourists resumed their way to Damascus, where they arrived on March 15. Here was seen the place where Paul was let down in the basket, and the homes of Ananias and Nomain, the leper. On leaving Damascus, the route led to Beyroot, on the Mediterranean, which was reached on March 17th, amid a heavy snow storm. From here the Americans turned their faces toward home, on the way visiting Athens, Patras, Phrineas, Italy, Naples, Pompeii, Rome, Florence, Venice, Vienna, Berlin, Frankford, Menis, Cologne, Brussels, Paris, and London. On Saturday, April 20th, the party set sail from Southampton, and arrived at home exactly one week later, Saturday, April 27th, having made a grand tour in four months.

ALBRECHT KNEULE, the editor and proprietor of the Norristown daily and weekly *Register*, the *Perkiomen Valley Press* and the *Pennsburg Bauern Freund*, was born in Esslingen, Kingdom of Wuerttemberg, Germany, on March 1, 1832, his parents being Adam and Fredericke Kneule. After a good school education he entered, in 1845, an apprenticeship of four years in the printing establishment of the *Esslinger Zeitung*, after which he worked as compositor in Gotha's large printing house in Stuttgart and later on a French newspaper at Berne, Switzerland.

In the fall of the year 1851 Mr. Kneule emigrated to America, and on February 13, 1852, secured a position in the *Neutralist* office, Skippackville, Montgomery county, where he worked as compositor and pressman until the spring of 1857. In April, 1857, he established a new German paper at Pennsburg, in the upper part of Montgomery county, under the title of *Pennsburg Democrat*, and in July, 1858, accepted an offer from the proprietors of the *Bauern Freund*, published then at Sumneytown, to combine the papers, and published them under the name of *Bauern Freund and Democrat* until 1865, when he bought out the interest of the former proprietors of the *Bauern Freund*, and carried on the business on his own account up to the present time. The *Bauern Freund*, after the consolidation of the two papers in 1858, had a circulation of about nine hundred, which was brought up by Mr. Kneule in a few years to three thousand and has been kept at that figure up to the present time.

Mr. Kneule also founded the *Perkiomen Valley Press*, a weekly English paper, the initial number of which was issued January 10, 1874, at Pennsburg, which paper has yet a fair circulation in the upper part of the county. In September of 1878, he bought out the Norristown *Register* establishment at Norristown, and on March 1, 1880, at the beginning of the Hancock campaign, under the firm name of A. Kneule & Son, commenced the publication of the *Daily Register*, an undertaking which was considered by many a very doubtful experiment, and which it proved to be for several years, but by endurance, industry and careful attention was finally made a success. The *Daily Register* is considered to-day one of the most popular newspapers in Norristown and Montgomery county.

Mr. Kneule has been not only the manager of the leading Democratic papers in Montgomery county for the past thirty-eight years, but he has also always taken a personal active part in politics and made public speeches for all the Democratic candidates for president from Breckinbridge in 1860 to Grover Cleveland in 1892.

In May, 1881, Mr. Kneule moved from Pennsburg to Norristown, where he has resided ever since. On July 25, 1894, he was appointed, by President Cleveland, as postmaster at Norristown. He is a member of the Norristown German Evangelical Lutheran church, Pennsburg Lodge No. 449, and Pennsburg Encampment No. 234, Independent Order of Odd Fellows; of Greenville Lodge No. 232, Knights of Pythias; of Lynwood Lodge No. 154, Ancient Order of United Workmen; and has been president of the Norristown Maennerchor from 1891 to 1894. He has served as a member of the Democratic State and county committees, and was a school director at Pennsburg for nine years. He never had any desire for political office, preferring his line of journalistic labor.

In November, 1855, Mr. Kneule married Louise Kraft, daughter of Michael Kraft of this county. They have five children, all married: Edwin K., a member of the firm of A. Kneule & Son, publishers of the *Daily Register*, who is married to Lillian Nason Harding; Henry, manager of his father's papers at Pennsburg, married to Mary Kolb, and have one son and three daughters; Albert K., foreman in the *Register* office, married to Matilda Wagner, and have one daughter; George W., holding a position in the *Register* office, married to Anna Eckert, and have one son and one daughter; and Mary, married Harry Dreshman, has one son and two daughters.

Albrecht Kneule has been the architect of his own good fortune in his adopted land, and a just and very truthful compliment was paid to him some years ago by a former biographer who said: "The life of this German emigrant, who has been taught in German schools and printing offices, to aspire to something more than a plodding soldier, shows the possibilities of free American citizenship. From the humble printer of 1852, by strict attention to a chosen pursuit, he has become the principal proprietor of three widely circulated newspapers, the *Register*, the *Perkiomen Valley Press* and the *Bauern Freund*."

SAMUEL COATS, the inventor of some important and valuable steam machinery, is a son of Lindsay and Priscilla (Fisher) Coats, and was born just beyond the Bridgeport borough line, in Upper Merion township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, June 1, 1841. He received his education at Tremont seminary when under the charge of Rev. Samuel Aaron and Prof. John W. Loch. He completed the seminary course at eighteen years of age, and then entered the employ of Supplee & Co., of Columbia, Pennsylvania, with whom he learned engineering. His first service as an engineer was at a rolling mill, and afterwards had charge of the general machinery of John Beard's extensive marble yard at Philadelphia, where he operated the first steam hoisting machine used in this country. Leaving Mr. Beard's employ, he became superintendent of machinery for the Knickerbocker Ice company of Philadelphia and Norristown, and after a continuous service of ten years, he returned to the home farm of eighty-three acres just beyond the borough limits of Bridgeport. At the end of three years, in 1887, he quit farming and removed to Bridgeport, where, in December, 1891, he established his present machine shops on Fourth street. He does a general machine, plumbing, gas and steam fitting business, and builds and repairs bicycles. Mr. Coats

has devoted considerable time to the study of steam machinery with beneficial results. He invented the improved electric moter with long stroke, which he neglected to patent until a Boston manufacturing company took up his idea and patented it. He is the inventor and patentee of an automatic fire escape for horses and cattle, which unhalters all stock and opens the doors of a stable in case of fire. This fire escape is now in use in Philadelphia, where Henderson & Bro. have their large stables provided with it. He is the inventor and patentee of a double thrashing machine, and Coats' variable pressure steam damper regulator, which regulates the pressure of steam in fifteen seconds. The object of the regulator is to use less coal and give more steam, while it gives a more regular heat in a building. It was used during the last winter in different places and gave good satisfaction. He has served as superintendent of the Bridgeport water works since their erection in 1892.

On February 27, 1868, Mr. Coats married Elizabeth Kean, a daughter of Alexander and Rebecca (Supplee) Kean, of Upper Merion. Mr. and Mrs. Coats had eleven children, of whom the following named are still living: Alexander K., Priscilla, Melcenea S., Bessie, Rebecca K. and Florence.

In politics Samuel Coats is a Democrat. He was appointed justice of the peace at Bridgeport, by Governor Pattison in 1892, to fill out the time of George Thomas, and at the ensuing election, was elected for a full term. He served as treasurer and supervisor of Upper Merion township, and after serving two successive terms as mayor of Bridgeport, declined a third term of the mayoralty, which was tendered him there by the citizens of the place. Mr. Coats, during the late Civil war, enlisted in Co. I, Thirty-fourth Pennsylvania infantry, on June 29, 1863, and served nine months, being promoted after enlistment to fife-major of the regiment. He is a member of the Swede Episcopal church of Bridgeport, and a past commander of Smith Post, No. 79, Grand Army of the Republic.

EDWARD F. BRITT, a prominent citizen of West Conshohocken, and the proprietor of a large dyeing establishment in Philadelphia, is a son of Benjamin and Leonora (Nooman) Britt, and was born at Guelph, Wellington county, province of Ontario, Dominion of Canada. The Britt family is of English lineage, and Edward Britt, paternal grandfather of Edward F. Britt, was born in County Tipperary, Ireland, where he carried on linen weaving for many years. He married Mary Wright, and to their union was born a family of twelve children. Benjamin Britt, the youngest child, became a shoe manufacturer, and, in 1835, emigrated with his wife and one child to Guelph, Canada. There he followed the shoe business up to the time of his death in 1856. He was a man of fair education, good judgment and business ability. He married Leonora Nooman, and to their union were born two sons and three daughters: Catharine, who wedded John Shea, and is now deceased; Dennis, deceased; Sarah, wife of Michael Kelly, of Carthage, Missouri; Edward F., (subject); and Mary, wife of James B. Hallohan, an electrician of Chicago, Illinois.

Edward F. Britt received a good English education at his native place, and learned the trade of a dyer, which he followed in the States of Illinois, Ohio, and Pennsylvania, for several years. He then, in 1871,

came to West Conshohocken, where he served as overseer of the dye department of George Bullock & Company's woolen mills for twelve years. At the end of that time, in 1883, he formed a partnership with James M. Kennedy, under the firm name of Kennedy and Britt, and they embarked in the dyeing business at the corner of Nassau and Jefferson streets, Philadelphia. In 1889 Mr. Kennedy died, and Mr. Britt purchased his interest in the dye works from the heirs. Mr. Britt has conducted the business successfully ever since. His dyeing-room is thirty-five by ninety feet, his finishing-room sixty-five by one hundred and sixty-five feet, and an ell building, used for various purposes, is forty-five by fifty feet in dimensions. When running full he employs forty men. He does a general dyeing and finishing business, taking the goods direct from the factories and mills, and, after dyeing and finishing them, shipping according to directions.

On March 5, 1867, at Fitchburg, Massachusetts, Mr. Britt married Mary A. Kelly, a daughter of James Kelly, of Pittsfield, Massachusetts. To their union have been born eight children: Edward D., Benjaman F., Dr. Albert J., George (deceased), Charles C., William K., Rosa A., and Walter F. Dr. Albert J., a graduate of Jefferson Medical college, was resident physician of Charity hospital, at Norristown, for a short time, and is now located at No. 1232 North Fifth street, Philadelphia.

Mr. Britt has served as burgess of his borough for four terms. Active in everything of local interest that will benefit West Conshohocken, he has probably given most attention to educational affairs. He has served for twenty-one years as a member of the school board, being president for several terms, and at the last election was unanimously elected, having been made the nominee of both parties. Mr. Britt is a member of the Roman Catholic church, and the Workmen's Building and Loan association, of which latter he is now president.

ISAAC ROBERTS, the efficient cashier of the Tradesmen's National bank, of Conshohocken, is a son of Isaac, sr., and Ruth (Conrad) Roberts, and was born at Norristown, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, February 1, 1854. The Roberts family is of Welsh origin and ranks as one of the oldest and most highly respected families of Montgomery county. We quote the following ancestral record of Mr. Roberts which is full of interest.

"Isaac Roberts, born second month, first day, 1854, is a son of Isaac Roberts, born sixth month, twenty-sixth day, 1814, and Ruth Conrad Roberts, married 1837. His father was the son of John Roberts, born ninth month, eighth day, 1769, and Rachel Shoemaker Roberts, married 1801. This John Roberts was the son of Joseph Roberts, born ninth month, eleventh day, 1729, and Hannah Reese Roberts, married 1727. This Joseph Roberts was the son of Aaron Roberts, born in Wales about 1682, and Sarah Longworthy Roberts, married 1727. This Aaron Roberts was the son of Ellis Roberts (or Robert Ellis), who came to Pennsylvania from Wales in 1690, with his wife Ellen and seven children and settled near Radnor, Lower Merion township, Montgomery county."

Isaac Roberts, sr., was born at Norristown, June 26, 1814, and received his education in private schools. He served as a clerk for some time in a store near Phoenixville, Chester county, owned by Charles Adamson,

and then engaged in the general mercantile business at Norristown, where he also interested himself in real estate. The great financial panic of 1857 overtook him with large holdings of real estate in different parts of the county and he suffered heavy losses during that period of business depression. After that panic he confined his efforts to conducting a real estate agency at Norristown, which he operated up to the time of his death, which occurred on the seventh month, thirteenth day, 1866. He was an old line Whig and a radical Abolitionist, being a delegate to the first national convention of the Republican party, which met at Pittsburg in 1856, and nominated John C. Fremont for the presidency. He was also connected with the Underground railroad. He was a member of the Society of Friends, and married Ruth Conrad, who was a daughter of Samuel Conrad, of Upper Dublin, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, and died on the eleventh month, thirteenth day, 1889, at the age of seventy-five years. Of the nine children born to them, but two are living: Isaac, subject; and Lucretia M., wife of Robert D. Smith, of Philadelphia.

Isaac Roberts received his education in the Norristown High school and at fifteen years of age became a clerk for Evan D. Jones & Co., of Conshohocken, and afterwards served as clerk and book-keeper for two years for John J. Lytle, of Seventh and Spring Garden streets, Philadelphia; and as a clerk for ten years in the private banking house of J. Morton Albertson, of Norristown. Leaving Mr. Albertson's employ he served for eight years as teller in the First National bank of Conshohocken, and was holding that position when the Tradesmens' National bank of the same place was plundered by the cashier, in 1889. This robbery was of such size as to necessitate the re-organization of the bank, and in November, 1889, Mr. Roberts was elected cashier, a position which he has held with credit ever since.

On June 12, 1894, Mr. Roberts was united in marriage with Ruth K. Thomas, a daughter of Joseph W. and Mary P. Thomas, of Chester county, where Mr. Thomas is engaged extensively in the fruit tree nursery business.

In politics, Isaac Roberts is an ardent and active Prohibitionist, and during the Amendment campaign, served as secretary of the Prohibition county committee. He is an able public speaker and has sustained himself in political discussion and debates against some of the best speakers in the State. He is a member of the Society of Friends, and assisted to organize the Young Friends Association, of Philadelphia. Mr. Roberts is courteous, affable and accomodating to all with whom he comes in contact, and ranks as a true gentleman and useful citizen in whose life record can be found no trace of dishonor, and no instance of a mean or discreditable action.

REV. WILLIAM B. FOX, a popular minister of Sumneytown, in charge of St. John's Evangelical Lutheran church of that place, is a son of Jones and Susan (Beidman) Fox, was born October 20, 1837, in what is now the village of Congo, in Douglas township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania. The grandfather of Rev. Fox, on the paternal side of the family, was Anthony Fox, who, in all probability, was a native of Chester county, this State, whence he emigrated to Douglas township, this county. He was a Democrat and devout member of the Lutheran church.

His children were as follows: Rebecca, Susan, Jones (father), Lydia, Jacob, who served in the War of 1812, through which service he contracted a disease that led to his death; James, Judith, who married James Bardman, and Reuben. Anthony Fox was born in 1763 and died in 1843. Jones Fox (father) was born on the homestead in the village of Congo, Douglas township, on April 10, 1800. He took up the pursuits of agriculture as a means of securing a livelihood, was a Democrat in political principle and a strict member of the Lutheran church in religious faith, holding office in the same during most of his life. His marriage with Susan Beidman resulted in the birth of four sons and one daughter; the daughter died in infancy. The sons were: Franklin, Reuben, Josiah and William B., subject.

Rev. William B. Fox obtained his preparatory education in Freeland seminary, now Ursinus college, and afterward attended Frederick institute, completing his professional education in the Lutheran seminary at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, from which institution he graduated in 1862. He was ordained to the ministry in 1863, and received his first charge at Berwick, Columbia county, this State, where he remained six years, and in September, 1868, came to Sumneytown, this County, where he has ever since been in charge of St. John's Evangelical Lutheran church. His pastoral duties, however, have not been confined to that church, but he has served his Divine Master as pastor of St. Mark's church at Pennsburg, Sassamanville church at Sassamanville, and Keeler's church at Frederick, in Frederick township. Zealously has he labored in all these charges since 1868, and has had the supreme pleasure of seeing them grow and prosper and the cause of the Master flourish.

On June 6, 1864, Rev. Fox and Lizzie, daughter of Wm. Mack, were united in marriage, and five children have blessed this union: Forest M., deceased; Alverta May, Anna Susan, wife of Ezra Allabach, who is a resident of Lansdale; Sallie E., wife of John Rahn, a merchant of Sassamanville; and William B., at home.

Rev. Fox has been a constant and devoted worker in his chosen field, and he can now look upon a long professional career with the sweet pleasure that comes only to a life well spent. He is eminently popular in the community in which he lives, and highly respected by all who know him. He is affable in manner, kind in his disposition, and is possessed of that charity and nobility of character that makes for God and Righteousness.

EMPSON K. HAINES, a man of fine mechanical ability and a prosperous farmer of Plymouth township, is a son of Empson and Rachel (Buzby) Haines, and was born in Salem county, New Jersey, May 10, 1829. His paternal grandfather, Benjamin Haines, was a native of Burlington county, New Jersey, and followed farming as an occupation. He was a Friend, and his son, Empson Haines, was the father of the subject of this sketch. Empson Haines was reared on a farm, and received his education in the ordinary schools of the neighborhood. He learned the trade of carpenter, and followed carpentering, contracting and building up to 1870, when he engaged in farming in Burlington county, that State, where he died September 27, 1878, when in the eighty-second year of his

age. He was a member of the Society of Friends, and had served his township as a member of its school board, and also had held the office of assessor continuously for over twenty years. He married Rachel Buzby, a daughter of Joseph Buzby, and to them were born six sons and six daughters.

Empson K. Haines was reared on his father's New Jersey farm, and received his education in the common schools of Burlington county, New Jersey, and Norristown academy, when under the management of the celebrated Rev. Samuel Aaron. Leaving school, he was employed in agricultural pursuits in New Jersey until 1867, in which year he rented a farm at Chestnut Hill, this State, on which he remained three years. He then bought his present farm in Plymouth township, where he has been engaged ever since in farming and stock raising.

Mr. Haines is a natural mechanic, and although he never served a day's apprenticeship to any mechanical trade, yet can do all kinds of carpentering and wheelwright work. He is a Republican in politics, and Friend in religion, being a member of Plymouth meeting, of which his wife and children are members. He cares nothing for political offices or public positions, and when offered local office has always declined to accept. His farm of seventy acres of good farming and grazing land lies within one and a half miles of Norristown, and under his skillful management has been made very productive.

On May 12, 1864, Empson K. Haines was united in marriage with Elizabeth Ivins, daughter of Joseph Ivins, of near Burlington, New Jersey. Mr. and Mrs. Haines have two children, a son and a daughter: Roland I., a practicing physician, of Camden, New Jersey; and Louella, now attending school in Philadelphia, this State.

J. RUFUS BARR, an experienced and leading druggist of West Conshohocken, is a son of Charles and Mary Ann (Fulton) Barr, and was born in Newtown township, Delaware county, Pennsylvania, January 1, 1854. In early Colonial days, seven brothers by the name of Barr, came from Germany to this country, and one of them is the immigrant ancestor of the Barr family of Delaware county. Charles Barr, the father of the subject of this sketch, was born in 1805, in Newtown township, Delaware county, received a good common English education, and owned a farm of two hundred acres, which he cultivated until 1866. It that year he removed to Chester city, in his native county, where he was extensively engaged in the flour and feed business until 1873, when his mill was burned. He then retired from active business, and resided at Chester city up to the time of his death, February 23, 1873. He was a Democrat, and a member of Maple Presbyterian church. He was very popular in his township, where he served as supervisor and school director, and was always elected, although the opposition party had a large majority at his voting polls. He married Mary Ann Fulton, a daughter of Robert Fulton, a native of Ireland, and a near relative of Robert Fulton, the celebrated inventor. The family consisted of nine children, four sons and five daughters: Lewis G., deceased; Hannah Mather, Eliza E. Rhoads, Margaret M. Yerkes, C. Rush, Susannah, deceased; Mary K. Yerkes, J. Rufus, subject; and Lewis Casper, who died at eighteen years of age.

J. Rufus Barr received his education in the public schools of Chester, and when he left school, at seventeen years of age, he was the recipient of a certificate of proficiency. Leaving school, he served as a clerk in

drug stores in Chester city, Lynwood, and Rockdale, Delaware county, up to 1880. During this period, in 1871, he entered the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy, from which he was graduated in 1876. In 1880 he removed to Conshohocken and served as a clerk in Reddington & MacKinzie's drug store for five years, excepting one year spent in a Philadelphia drug store. He thoroughly understands his business, and has a good trade. Mr. Barr is a Democrat in politics, held the post-office during Cleveland's first term, and is again postmaster by President Cleveland's appointment. He is a member of the First Presbyterian church at Norristown, and has always been one of the most active and enthusiastic of church workers. In addition to the amount of church work that he does, he is a faithful and untiring laborer in the Sunday-school cause. As assistant superintendent of Mount Pleasant Union Sunday-school for the last ten years, Mr. Barr has not missed over one Sunday on an average each year, and then only when it was an impossibility to attend. He is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and Washington Camp, Patriotic Order Sons of America.

In June, 1877, Mr. Barr married Maria B. Williams, a daughter of John B. Williams, of Chester city, this State. To Mr. and Mrs. Barr have been born the following children: Louetta K., Florence F., Gertrude B., Lizzie, Mary, Charles, deceased; C. Rush, Ellen Jane, Samuel F., deceased; and Ruth.

CHARLES A. KNEULE, postmaster at Pennsburg, this county, is a son of Theodore and Mary A. (Brenninger) Kneule, and was born April 6, 1862, near Reading, in Muhlenberg township, Berks county, Pennsylvania. His father was born in Wurtemburg, Germany, in 1834, but came in 1854, when a young man, to the United States. He first took up his residence in Salfordville, this county, but remained there only a short time, when he removed to Berks county, where he married and lived for a time. Then after a short stay in Lehigh county, came in 1869, to Pennsburg, where he has ever since resided. He learned the tailor trade in the Fatherland, and has pursued it as a life vocation. For a time he ran a mercantile clothing business in Pennsburg, and for the last sixteen years has been engaged in the manufacture of clothes, at times on a rather extended scale, manufacturing as many as three thousand pieces a week. He is a Democrat in political affinity, and a member of the Lutheran church, whilst fraternally he belongs to Pennsburg Lodge No. 449, I. O. O. F.; Pennsburg Encampment No. 234, of the I. O. O. F. He has been twice married; first time to Mary E. Brenninger, a daughter of Trichler Brenninger, and three children were born to their union, as follows: Tusnelda, wife of John Kimes, a resident of Philadelphia; Annie Keinert, a resident of Philadelphia; and Charles A. Mrs. Mary A. Kneule died in September, 1875, at the age of forty-three years, and Mr. Kneule married as his second wife Caroline Hindennach, of Philadelphia. Four children were born to this union. They were: Carrie, Eugene, Freddie and Theodore, who died young.

Charles A. Kneule had the advantage of but a limited education. His elementary education was obtained in the common schools of Pennsburg, after which he attended for a time Perkiomen academy. Leaving school, he learned the trade of a barber, and plied it in Pennsburg and Philadelphia as a journeyman until 1879, when

he purchased a shop in Pennsburg, which he has conducted ever since. In matters political Mr. Kneule has always been an active, influential, unswerving Democrat. He has served as a member of the Democratic standing committee for several years, and on July 8, 1893, was appointed postmaster of Pennsburg, the position he is now filling with credit to himself and with satisfaction to all concerned. In 1892 he was a delegate to the State convention that met at Harrisburg, and was selected as chairman of the Montgomery county delegation. In the fraternal world he stands deservedly high, belonging to a number of lodges well known for their missions of wisdom, benevolence and charity. Among them are Pennsburg Lodge No. 449, I. O. O. F.; Pennsburg Encampment No. 234, of the I. O. O. F., of which he is a past patriarch and the present treasurer; Perkiomen Lodge No. 595, F. and A. M., of which he, with nine others, were the organizers, and of which he was the first representative to the Grand Lodge; Nativity Commandery No. 71, Knight Templars; Pottstown Chapter No. 271, R. A. M.; East Greenville Lodge No. 32, Knights of Pythias, of which he is past chancellor.

On April 3, 1883, he married Lucy M., a daughter of Charles and Angeline Roeder, and four children have been born to their union: Twins, that died in infancy; Herbert Theodore, and Charles Roeder.

HON. HENRY RIEHLE BROWN was born in the city of Philadelphia, December 15, 1844; was educated in public and private schools; and removed with his parents to Plymouth township, Montgomery county, September 8, 1859.

In September, 1862, when the rebels made their first raid into Pennsylvania, Mr. Brown went to Harrisburg with a number of others from Norristown, and there assisted in organizing a company of infantry, which afterwards became Co. D. of the 11th regiment of Pennsylvania militia, of which company he was elected a sergeant. On September 16, when less than eighteen years old, he was elected and commissioned 1st lieutenant of this company, and served with it during the emergency, in the Cumberland valley of Pennsylvania, and in the vicinity of Hagerstown, Maryland; the command being, on the afternoon of the 16th and the 17th of September, within hearing of the battle of Antietam, but was not engaged.

When the rebels again invaded Pennsylvania, in June, 1863, Mr. Brown left Norristown for Harrisburg, June 16th, and on the 19th was elected 1st lieutenant of a company of infantry; but there being not a sufficient number of recruits to muster as a company, the organization was disbanded, and on June 29th, Mr. Brown, with others of the company, enlisted in Capt. Samuel W. Comly's Wissahickon cavalry company, which was mustered into the United States service in the department of the Susquehanna, to serve during the emergency, and was attached to the 20th regiment of Pennsylvania cavalry. On June, 17, Mr. Brown was promoted to corporal; on the 20th to sergeant; and a few days later to sergeant major of the regiment. The 20th regiment was composed of seven companies recruited for six months service, and five companies of emergency militia. They were at first employed in scouting and picket duty along the fords of the Susquehanna, in the vicinity of Harrisburg, and

the various roads leading towards Carlisle, York and Morrisville. On the 7th of July, the regiment left Camp Couch, near Harrisburg, and marched by the Cumberland valley to Greencastle, whence it was sent upon scouting duty into Maryland, and in conjunction with three companies of the first New York cavalry, followed upon the footsteps of Lee's army to Hagerstown, near which place, a portion of the command engaged the rebels' rear guard, and captured a few prisoners and horses. From Greencastle the regiment marched to Falling Waters, where it picketed the fords of the Potomac, then much swollen by recent rains. The emergency companies returned to Harrisburg, and were discharged in Camp Curtin, July 30, 1863.

On November 3, 1863, Mr. Brown began to read law in the office of ex-Judge Hon. Daniel M. Smyser, in Norristown, and while pursuing his studies, lived with his parents in Plymouth township. He was admitted to the bar of Montgomery county November 13, 1866; moved to Philadelphia December 19; was admitted to the bar of Philadelphia, December 22, and began the practice of his profession there January 1, 1867. He returned to Norristown to live in April following, but continued to practice in Philadelphia until June, 1871, when he left the bar. Becoming interested in several patents, he devoted much time and attention to their development and introduction. Desiring to dispose of a patent right on the Pacific Coast, he sailed from New York for San Francisco, via the Isthmus of Panama, on November 7, 1874, and remained in California nearly two years. In March, 1876, he became connected with the office of the comptroller of the currency, as special bank examiner, his first assignment being to make a special examination of the National Gold Bank and Trust Co., of San Francisco. Subsequently he was ordered to report at Washington, where he arrived in September of the same year. On September 28th, he was sent to Wichita, Kansas, to take charge, as receiver, of a National bank there. Some months later he resigned, and in March 1877, resumed the practice of his profession in Norristown, and has since been so employed. On April 19, 1877, he was appointed notary public, and served until February 18, 1881, when, having been elected a member of the house of representatives, he resigned as notary public. In the autumn of 1877, he first became active in politics, on the Republican side, and in the campaign of the following year, first appeared on the stump. On January 2, 1880, he was elected secretary of the Union Republican club, of Montgomery county, and served until January 24, 1884, when the club was disbanded. At a special election, held February 15, 1881, to fill a vacancy caused by the death of Wallace J. Boyd, Mr. Brown was elected a member of the Pennsylvania house of representatives, for Montgomery county, by a majority of 531 over Mahlon S. Sellers; was sworn in February 18th, and served on the following named committees of that body, viz: constitutional reform, ways and means, judiciary general, library, and federal relations. He was nominated by acclamation in 1882 for the same office, but was defeated, as were all Republicans on the ticket that year. He was elected secretary of the Republican county committee of Montgomery county, December 4, 1882, and served until September 16, 1885, when he declined a re-election.

At the organization of the Montgomery

county bar association, April 6, 1885, he was elected treasurer, and is still serving in that capacity. At the general election, November 2, 1886, he was elected senator for the 12th senatorial district, composed of Montgomery county, by a majority of 724 over Philip Super, Esq., and served during the session of 1887 on the following committees of that body, viz : constitutional reform, chairman ; centennial affairs, chairman ; canals and inland navigation ; and vice and immorality. And in the session of 1889 on the following committees, viz : constitutional reform, chairman ; centennial affairs, secretary ; judiciary, local secretary ; judiciary, special ; congressional appropriation ; insurance, and new counties and county seats.

On August 23, 1887, he was elected treasurer of the Republican county committee, and is still serving as such. On March 15, 1893, he was appointed solicitor to the county commissioners of Montgomery county, and is still serving. On May 14, 1894, he was elected a member of the Pennsylvania Society of Sons of the Revolution, in right of his grandfather, Captain William Brown of the Pennsylvania navy.

He has been a member of St. John's Episcopal Church in Norristown since 1865, and served as vestryman of said church from January 8, 1878 to October 24, 1890 ; and as warden from March 18, 1879, to October 24, 1890, and as treasurer from May 3, 1886 to October 24, 1890, resigning on the last named day. He was married in said church on February 10, 1880, to Alice, fourth and youngest daughter of Alfred and Wilhelmine E. Hurst, of Norristown. They have two children, viz : Grace Bradford Brown, and Rawle Hurst Brown.

On August 5, 1895, he became associated with Hon. Charles Hunsicker, in the practice of the law.

EDWARD THOMAS, a prominent business man of Norristown, was born February 2, 1814, in Flintshire, Wales, and is a son of Joseph and Elizabeth (Steiventer) Thomas. He was educated in the public schools of Philadelphia, and learned the trade of a carpenter and followed it as a journeyman in Frankford a number of years before going into business on his own account. He then began a contracting and building business in Frankford, where he was actively and successfully engaged in that line up to the time of his comparative retirement, a period of about thirty-three years. The life of Edward Thomas has truly been an active and industrious one. His motto has been, "Whatever is worth doing at all is worth doing well," which coupled with energy, enterprise, perseverance and economy, has enabled him to accumulate a very handsome fortune, owning much valuable real estate in the borough. The fortune which he has made has been the result solely of his own unaided efforts. In addition to his individual real estate interests, he is interested in the Norristown Land company and at one time owned a part of the land upon which is now located Riverside cemetery. Politically, he is a Prohibitionist, and whilst he is no sense radical, yet he firmly believes that the liquor evil can most effectually be regulated by judicious legislation. He has been a member of the Methodist Episcopol church for the long period of sixty-four years, serving as class leader, exhorter, trustee and steward and always evincing a commendable

interest in whatever form of church work he might be engaged.

On March 30, 1837, Mr. Thomas married Ann Hall, a daughter of David Hall, and they were the parents of four children: Lydia, Enoch, Emma and William. All died in early childhood but William, who is a book-keeper and a resident of Norristown. Mrs. Thomas was born in England on September 21, 1813, and died October 8, 1892.

Edward Thomas stands deservedly high in the community in which he lives. As a business man, as an active church worker and as a citizen his record is above reproach.

JOHN E. FINLEY, senior member of the grocery firm of J. E. & S. Finley, of Norristown, is a native of this borough, where he was born October 21, 1846. He is the third son and fourth child of John S. and Phoebe (Rhodes) Finley, and has resided in Norristown all his life. After obtaining a good education, at the age of sixteen, he assumed charge of a stationary engine connected with Schall's Iron works, at Norristown, Pa., and ran it successfully for a period of eight years. He then learned the trade of machinist, and worked at that business for two years. In 1876 he became connected with the Alan Wood Company's rolling mill, in the capacity of stationary engineer, and remained in that position for some ten years. He then embarked in the grocery business, in partnership with his brother, Samuel Finley, under the firm name of Finley Brothers, and has continued in the prosecution of that enterprise to the present time. They have built up a very nice trade.

Politically, Mr. Finley is an adherent of the Republican party, and a firm believer in the policy of protection to American industry. In religion he is a member and elder of the Central Presbyterian church of Norristown. He is also a member of Gratitude Lodge, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, of Conshohocken, and of the Patriotic Order Sons of America, at Norristown.

On October 16, 1883, Mr. Finley was married to Eliza Graham, a daughter of James and Eliza Graham, of County Tyrone. To Mr. and Mrs. Finley have been born two children, both sons: Elwood and Mark.

John S. Finley (father) was born at Pennsneck, New Jersey, in 1813. When quite young he went to Delaware county, Pennsylvania, and soon afterwards came to Norristown. Here he entered the McCrudy mills, when Norristown was only a small village, and continued to reside here until his death in 1891, when in the seventy-eighth year of his age. He was a machinist by trade and worked with Moore & Hooven, the latter had charge of Schall's rolling mill for a number of years. Politically he was a Jacksonian Democrat. In religion he was a devoted member of the Baptist church. He married Phoebe Rhodes, in 1838, and by that union had a family of eight children: David, Ruth, Charles, John E., the subject of this sketch; Samuel, a member of the firm of Finley Brothers; William A., whose sketch appears elsewhere in this work; James, and Albert. Mrs. Phoebe Finley died in 1879, aged sixty-two years.

CYRUS Q. GULDIN, president of the Ringing Rocks Electric Railway company, is a son of Horace N. and Elizabeth M. (Eshbach) Guldin, and was born at New Berlinville, Berks county, Pennsylvania,

Cyrus D. Guldin

May 25, 1860. He secured a good English education in the public schools of his native county, and afterward learned the trade of wheelwright. About 1879 he came to Pottstown, Montgomery county, where he followed his trade for a time and subsequently entered the employ of the Keystone Agricultural works. Still later on he worked in the pattern shops of the Pottstown Iron company and the bridge works of Cofrode & Saylor. During this time his attention was turned toward real estate investments, which proved very profitable. In partnership with his father, Horace N. Guldin, he purchased a tract of land in the western part of Pottstown, which is now known as "Guldin's Addition," and proceeded to lay it out into town lots. This venture was a fortunate one, and the enterprising owners soon reaped a golden harvest by their business foresight and sound judgment, demonstrating anew that "nothing succeeds like success."

In 1887 Mr. C. Q. Guldin opened a real estate, insurance and conveyancing office in Pottstown, and continued the business for some time. In 1888 he was chosen a member of the town council for three years, being elected in a Democratic ward, although he had always been a Republican. At the close of his term in the council, he was elected, in 1891, to the office of chief burgess of Pottstown, by a majority of one hundred and seventy, receiving the largest vote ever polled for a Republican candidate in this city, which usually gives a Democratic majority of more than four hundred. In the discharge of his duties as burgess, Mr. Guldin proved himself an efficient and painstaking official. He is president of the board of trade in Pottstown, and as such has been actively identified with every movement to establish new industries here and advance the interests of the town generally. In doing this he has contributed freely of his own means, and devoted much time and labor to interesting others in such enterprises as would benefit the town and give employment to her citizens, and in whatever undertaking he embarked, is always an untiring worker. In 1894 he was a prominent candidate for the Republican nomination for State senator from this district.

On March 2, 1881, Mr. Guldin was married to Lillie Butz, a daughter of George W. Butz, of Pottstown. They have one child, a daughter named Lizzie. Both are members of the Lutheran church, and Mr. Guldin is also a member of the church council. He is a Knight Templar Mason, a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and of the Junior Order of American Mechanics.

ANDREW S. LEEDOM, a merchant of West Conshohocken, is a son of John and Susanna M (Steel) Leedom, and was born in Radnor township, Delaware county, Pennsylvania, September 13, 1840. Of Scotch origin, his immigrant ancestor to the new world came from Scotland and settled in Pennsylvania, and his paternal grandfather, Isaac Leedom, was a farmer of Radnor township, in Delaware county, where he was twice married, and reared in all a family of thirteen children. One of these children was John Leedom (father), who was born in 1799, and died January 12, 1860, aged sixty-one years. He was a farmer, a Friend and a Whig. He wedded Susannah M. Steel, whose father was Andrew Steel, of West-town. Susannah M. Leedom died February 20, 1882, when in the seventy-sixth year of her age. Mr.

and Mrs. Leedom had a family of seven children: Silas J., Mary, wife of John Jones, of Norristown; Isaac, John, jr., Ann Eliza, now dead; Andrew S., subject; and Sallie K., wife of John Pugh.

Andrew S. Leedom was reared on the home farm, received his education in the common schools of his native township, and the Gulf school, and then entered Crittenden's Commercial college, of Philadelphia, from which he was graduated at the close of his course. Returning home he followed farming until 1861, when he enlisted for three months in Company D, Fourth Pennsylvania infantry. At the close of his term he enlisted in Company I, Fifty-first Pennsylvania infantry, and participated in the following battles: Roanoke Island, New Berne, Second Bull Run, Chantilly, South Mountain, Antietam and Fredricksburg, where a minnie ball dislocated his left wrist. This wound proved so serious that he was sent to a Philadelphia hospital, from which he was discharged on May 9, 1863, as disabled for military service. He had served eighteen months on his second term of enlistment. When he returned home he took a second commercial course. He then became a clerk in the general mercantile store of William Davis, jr., at West Conshohocken station, whom he bought out in 1864. He continued at the station for three years and then purchased ground, and built his present general merchantile establishment on Front street. He has a large patronage, and besides merchandising is engaged in a number of other business enterprises.

On February 26, 1874, Mr. Leedom married Sarah E. Saylor, a daughter of Richard A. Saylor, a former teacher and merchant of West Conshohocken.

In politics Mr. Leedom has always supported the principles and measures of the Republican party. He is also a member of the Hicksite branch of the Society of Friends, and belongs to the Plymouth meeting of that division. He is a charter member and one of the chief organizers of Fritz Lodge No. 420, Free and Accepted Masons, of Conshohocken.

PATRICK CURREN, a prominent business man of Norristown, is a son of Patrick and Bridget (Kell) Curren, and was born November 19, 1833, at Girardville, Schuylkill county, Pennsylvania.

Patrick Curren, father, was born in County Caven, Ireland, but emigrated to this country about February 3, 1827. For a time he lived in New York city, but later went into Schuylkill county, and was engaged in public works in that and Berks county and Montgomery county. His children were four in number: three sons and one daughter.

Patrick Curren had the advantages of but a common school education, and at the early age of ten years, secured work in a cotton mill where he remained seven years, then for a short time worked in a brick yard. He then for nineteen years followed boating on the Schuylkill canal, between Pottsville, Schuylkill county, Pennsylvania, and the cities of the Atlantic seaboard. Shortly after relinquishing the boating business, he was engaged for a time in the distilling business in Philadelphia. Soon after the close of the late Civil war, he embarked in the wholesale liquor business in Norristown, where he has remained ever since. He does not confine his operations however to the liquor business, but is in-

Patrick Curren

terested in a number of other enterprises of Norristown that are the measure of the towns progress and prosperity. Among them are the following: The Norristown Woolen mill, the Norristown Water company, the Norristown Gas company, Adam Scheidt Brewing company, Albertson Trust and Safe Deposit company, Citizens' Street Railway company, American Steel Plant at Norristown, the Montgomery hotel, the Bunting Liquor house of Philadelphia, a distillery at Louisville, Kentucky, and owns a fine stock farm of fifty-six acres just outside the borough limits of Norristown, and takes a special delight in the breeding and raising of fancy stock.

Politically Mr. Curren is a Democrat, and is a councilman from the fifth ward of the borough of Norristown. In 1866 he married Rose, a daughter of James Sheridan, a native of Ireland, who lived to be ninety-six years of age. The children that bless this marital alliance are as follows: Mary, deceased; Annie, wife of J. Frank Boyer, of Norristown; Julia, at home; Francis, Edward F., Sarah, deceased; Jane and Joseph.

Edward F. Curren, son of Patrick Curren, was born January 28, 1870, at Norristown. He was educated and graduated in 1886, in the parochial schools of Norristown, and Tremont Seminary. Leaving school he was engaged with his father until 1893, when he was made secretary of the Adam Scheidt Brewing company, the position he now holds. He is interested in the Schuylkill Valley Traction company, and also the Consumers' Ice company, of Norristown.

Mr. Curren is largely a self-made man, practical in his views, and has contributed not a little to the business enterprise and impetus of Norristown. He is proverbial for his honesty, fair dealing, and absolute reliability, while as a citizen he is steadfast to the demands of good citizenship.

On November 28, 1893, he married Louisa Emers, a daughter of Robert Emers, of Philadelphia, and one child, Pauline, blesses their union.

FRANCIS H. LUBBE, one of the older business men of Conshohocken, is the eldest child of Herman and Catharine (Klinman) Lubbe, and was born at the village of Steinbeck, in the province of Westphalia, Prussia, April 9, 1820. Herman Lubbe was a farmer by occupation, served for a certain length of time in the Prussian heavy cavalry, and died at his native village in 1847, at forty-eight years of age. He was a member of the Evangelical Lutheran church, and married Catharine Klinman, who died at Indianapolis, Indiana, in 1869, aged seventy-three years. They had eleven children: Francis H., Henry, Herman, Catharine, Anna, Christina, Casper, Elizabeth and three who died young. Of these children, Francis H., Herman and Anna came to this country with their mother.

Francis H. Lubbe received his education in the excellent schools of Prussia, and at twenty-eight years of age came to this country in quest of further knowledge in regard to Republican government. He located at Bridgeport, and, in 1853, removed to Conshohocken, where he has resided ever since. He followed contracting and building up to 1878, when he engaged in the real estate and conveyancing business. He has been connected for many years with most of the different building and loan associations of this borough and is interested in the Electric Light, the Gas and the Water

companies, of Conshohocken. He is a Republican in politics, served as notary public for fifteen years, was borough treasurer from 1874 to 1878, and is now serving on his fifth consecutive term as treasurer. He is a charter member and the oldest deacon in years of service in the Conshohocken Baptist church, and the treasurer from its organization in 1870, and has always been an active, energetic and enthusiastic advocate of the cause of temperance. He traveled for a period of seven years over the greater part of Europe for the purpose of acquiring knowledge.

On March 10, 1853, Mr. Lubbe was united in marriage with Anna L. Custer, a daughter of John Custer, of Perry county. They had five children, of whom the two eldest died in infancy, while the three younger that grew to maturity were: Charles C., and Wilmer F., who are both dead, and Ella E., wife of David H. Ross, an attorney-at-law.

Charles C. Lubbe was graduated from the University of Pennsylvania, and then entered the United States Naval academy at Annapolis, Maryland, from which he was graduated as No. 4 in a large class in June, 1879. He was a young officer of bright promise and lost his life on August 4, 1879, in attempting to rescue a drowning man at Atlantic City, where he was awaiting orders for active duty.

Wilmer F. Lubbe was graduated in civil engineering from the University of Pennsylvania, took a post graduate course in electrical engineering, and in 1886, was employed by the Westinghouse company as a construction engineer. He erected the Conshohocken Electric Light plant and died February 6, 1889, while erecting, at Bristol, this State, his tenth electrical light plant, and was also superintendent of the Conshohocken Electric Light company.

DR. C. Q. HILLEGAS, D. D. S., a skilled and popular dentist of Pennsburg, this county, is a son of John G. and Catharine (Zeigler) Hillegas, and was born June 29, 1870, in Upper Hanover township, this county.

The genealogical record of Dr. C. Q. Hillegas, appears in full in the sketch of his father, which appears elsewhere He was educated in the public schools of Upper Hanover township and in Perkiomen seminary at Pennsburg, under the tutilage of Professor C. S. Weand. At the early age of sixteen he entered the Philadelphia Dental college, from which he graduated in 1889, at the age of eighteen years, receiving the degree of Doctor of Dental Surgery. During the last year at the dental college he took the course of the Medico-Chirurgical college, with the exception of the last year, being then in the Senior class, it being his intention at that time to complete the course, but he abandoned the idea and located at his home in Upper Hanover township, and began the practice of dentistry. After one year he removed to Pennsburg, where he has since practiced, and has built up an enviable reputation as a skilled workman, and counts among his clientele many of the most representative families of this section of the county.

Mr. Hillegas is a Democrat and a member of the New Goshenhoppen Reformed church, and is a teacher in the Sabbath school.

On September 8, 1891, he married Ella, a daughter of William Siegfried, deceased, of Monterey, Berks county, this State. One child blesses this union.

Both in his professional and social relations Dr. Hillegas is uniformly liked. He is a young man of promise, steadfast purpose and strict fidelity, and in his bearing

Hon. H. T. Buck.

manifests the instincts and training of a cultured mind. He is eminently deserving of the position he occupies among the citizens of Pennsburg.

WILLIAM H. BUCK, justice of the peace and a large farmer of Marlborough township, this county, is a son of Charles and Christiana (Royer) Buck, and was born December 31, 1847, in Upper Hanover township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania. The family is of German origin, (the earlier name being written Bock, after the German), but they have been residents of Montgomery county for several generations. Hispaternal great-grandfather was Peter Buck, a blacksmith by trade, and at one time lived at Green Lane, this county; latterly at Long Swamp, Berks county, where he died.

Jacob Buck, grandfather, was born in this county June 3, 1794, but spent the early part of his life at Long Swamp, Berks county, Pa., where he married. In 1822 he moved to Hereford township, in said county, and thence, in 1823, to Sumneytown, where he died on August 18, 1856. His avocation was that of a blacksmith, his political principles were Democratic, and his religious faith was that of the German Reformed church. He married Anna Schmeck, and eight children were born to their union: Charles, father, Daniel, Henry, Jacob, James, Carmilla, now deceased, was the wife of Reuben Geyer; Maria, and Caroline, who died when quite young.

Charles Buck (father), was born August 3, 1820, in Long Swamp township, Berks county, learned the trade of blacksmithing with his father, and followed it from 1835 to 1862, from 1839 to 1842 at Reading and Exeter. In 1842 he went to Hillegasville, (now Red Hill), Montgomery county, where he also served as State and county tax collector for Upper Hanover township for several years. In 1862 he purchased the farm upon which he now lives, near Green Lane, (where for nine years he followed farming), and has resided there ever since. He is a staunch believer in the principles of the Democratic party, to which he has always given his hearty support, and has served his district as school director for one term.

On January 28, 1844, he wedded Christiana Royer, a daughter of Henry Royer, and his wife Elizabeth, (born Fryer), and they became the parents of three children: William Henry, Charles, a miller and huckster at Boyertown, Berks county, Pa.; and Ellen, the wife of Herman S. Hillegas, of Pennsburg, this county.

William H. Buck, by hard and persistent study, obtained a good common school education, and being desirous of further broadening his mental culture, when seventeen years of age he entered Washington Hall boarding school at Trappe, this county. Leaving school he was for a number of years engaged in the profession of teaching. Having learned the trade of a miller, he for one year successfully operated the Macoby Valley mill, in Upper Hanover township, fromApril, 1867, to April, 1868. Having married in 1870, in April, 1871, he took his father's farm, near Green Lane station, where he now resides. The farm consists of nearly one hundred acres, is nicely and conveniently located, well watered, and in fertility is among the best in that fertile valley. Since 1871 he has, with some effect, followed the pursuits of an agriculturist, of late making a specialty in the line of poultry, potatoes and garden fruits.

Mr. Buck is a staunch Democrat, and is

prominent and influential in the councils of the Democratic party. In 1876 he was elected a justice of the peace of Marlborough township, and has served continuously in that office to the present time, by re-election from time to time. Being strongly in favor of popular education, he was elected a member of the Marlborough school board at the spring election of 1881. Upon the organization of the board of directors in the following June, he was elected its secretary, and has held both offices continuously to this time. In 1884 Mr. Buck was one of the nominees of the Democratic party for the State legislature, receiving 11,011 votes, but went down with the rest of the legislative ticket, due to the Blaine tide sweeping over the county.

Fraternally he is a member of Pennsburg Lodge No. 449, I. O. O. F., and passed through all the chairs, having been its secretary for a number of years; also being on important committees when that lodge built their magnificent hall. He was also a charter member of Adams Grange No. 64, Patrons of Husbandry, and took an active part during the 70's in breaking down the monopolizing tendencies of farming machinery and implement manufacturers, and the excessive fees paid their agents, also against the sewing machine monopoly, which had itself then ramified in every part of our country.

Religiously he is a member of the New Goshenhoppen Reformed church, of which he is one of the elders, was a delegate of Goshenhoppen classis, to the Eastern synod at Harrisburg in 1894, and again is a delegate elder of said classis to said synod to meet at Shamokin, Pa., next October. He has always taken an active part in church work, and is highly respected and esteemed by everybody.

On December 24, 1870, he married Amelia Brey, second daughter of Jonas Brey, a farmer and shoemaker at Klinesville, this county, and ten children have been born to this union. They are as follows: Cora Lavinia, wife of Henry T. Grubb; Horace M., a teacher by profession; William C., Jacob N., John C., deceased; Richard M., Katie, and Frank; Amelia C. and Wallace, (twin born), died in infancy. Mrs. Buck died on December 21, 1882, and on February 28, 1885, Mr. Buck married as his second wife, Mrs. Jennie G. King, widow of Milton King, third child and only daughter of Henry D. Wile and Catharine Ann, his wife, (born Godschall), of Franconia township, this county. Five children bless this union: Warren, Minerva, Thurman, Anna, and Lillian.

Mr. Buck is rather corpulent, as his engraving shows, but hale and hearty. He always enjoys the presence of all of his interesting family and his host of friends. With him and his good wife the latch string is always out for all decent people, and nobody is expected to leave the portals of the old homestead hungry or thirsty as long as wheat grows and the clouds bring rain.

JESSE WORTH EVANS, one of the enterprising and successful business men of Pottstown, is a son of Captain Jesse B. and Mary Ann (Souders) Evans, and was born December 31, 1850, in Limerick township, this county. His father was also a native of Montgomery county, who for many years was engaged in the manufacture of pumps in Limerick township. He served as captain in the State militia and took an active part in public affairs. In 1827 he married Mary Ann Sou-

ders, a native of Philadelphia. By that union he had a family of eleven children, of whom the subject of this sketch is the youngest. Jesse B. Evans died in 1858, at the age of sixty-one years, and his wife passed away in 1878, in the seventy-third year of her age.

Jesse Worth Evans was reared in his native county, obtaining his education in the public schools. At the age of fourteen he came to Pottstown as clerk in the general store of M. B. Casselberry, and remained in that capacity for four years. In 1869 he purchased the butchering business of Mr. Casselberry, and successfully conducted that enterprise until 1871, when he sold out and engaged in the livery business at Pottstown. For eleven years he owned and operated a general livery business here, and was the first man to run cabs to the Reading depot. In 1881 Mr. Evans embarked in the retail tobacco trade, and soon afterward added the manufacture of cigars, and began a general jobbing business in tobacco. Like his previous ventures, this enterprise prospered in his hands, and in 1890 he commenced dealing largely in leaf tobacco as well as in the manufactured article. His trade now covers from eight to ten States, and in the aggregate is extensive and lucrative. In 1893 he erected the large and commodious brick warehouse now in use. It is forty-five by one hundred and fifty feet in dimensions, three stories high and supplied with all modern improvements. This structure is a valuable addition to the growing city of Pottstown, and is justly regarded as one of the best and most complete warehouses in Eastern Pennsylvania.

In addition to his success in private business, Mr. Evans has shown great public spirit and done much to advance the material interests and prosperity of Pottstown. He is a member of the board of trade, and has been instrumental in inducing several of the substantial industries of the town to locate here. At all times he has taken an active part in every enterprise which had for its object the improvement and development of the city. For three years he served as trustee of the Bringhurst Trust fund, and was a member of the original committee which was instrumental in having the sanitary law of 1893 passed at Harrisburg.

In his political affiliations Mr. Evans has always been a Democrat. In 1887 he was elected a member of the city council, his majority being the largest ever given to any man from the west ward. After serving one full term he was re-elected to the council in 1890, and in 1892 was nominated and elected burgess of Pottstown. He at once resigned his seat in the council to accept the latter office, which he administered with such acceptability, that in 1893 he was re-elected to the same office, thus serving two full terms. While acting as mayor, Mr. Evans appointed the first board of health for Pottstown, and was the last burgess to preside over the borough council, as under the present law the council elects its presiding officer.

Mr. Evans is a Free and Accepted Mason, a Knight Templar, and a member of Washington Camp No. 92, Patriotic Order Sons of America. He is also connected with the Junior Order of United American Mechanics.

On August 13, 1870, the subject of this sketch was united in marriage to Ella J. Reifsnyder, a daughter of John and Caroline Reifsnyder, of Pottstown, Pa. To Mr. and Mrs. Evans have been born seven children: Charles, died in infancy; John Brooke, L. Gertrude, Mary E., Jesse R.,

Ralph H., and Carrie F. Mr. Evans is a member of the Reformed church of Pottstown, as is his wife. They are both very popular in social circles.

EDWARD J. CAINE, manager and superintendent of brick work in the construction and repair department of the Alan Wood & Co. iron works and rolling mills of Conshohocken, is a son of Thomas and Angelina (Marier) Caine. He was born at Swanton Falls, in the State of Vermont, June 1, 1838. The Caines were originally from England and their first home in the new world was in New York, from which colony and afterward State, they went into different sections of the union. John Caine (grandfather) was born in Detroit, Michigan, and coming east, resided successively at Swanton Falls, Vermont; Troy, New York; and Reading, Pennsylvania. He served in one or more of the Indian wars, was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and died at Reading, Pennsylvania. He married Jane Newton, and to their union was born fourteen children: John, Jane, Margaret, Thomas, Melinda, Caroline, M. Hathaway, Elizabeth, Richard, William, George, Emma and Robert. Mr. Caine died in July, 1850, at eighty-three years of age, while his widow lived to reach her ninety-second year, dying October, 1856. Thomas Caine, one of their elder sons, was born at St. Albans, Vermont, about the year 1803, and followed bricklaying as a trade. He was also a contractor and builder, and built several rolling mills and gas works. He came to Reading, Pennsylvania, in 1849, and six years later went to Ludington, Michigan, where he died about 1878. He was a Democrat, served in the latter part of the war of 1821, and after going to Michigan, held the offices of justice of the peace and county commissioner. He was an active member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and wedded Angelina Marier, a native of France, a daughter of Madey Marier. Mrs. Caine died in August, 1877, aged seventy-four years. Mr. and Mrs. Caine had three children, a son and two daughters: Rachel Glassmyer, Edward (subject), and Louise Caswell.

Edward Caine received his education in the Reading Public schools and at Farnham school, of Beverly, New Jersey. He learned the trade of bricklaying with his father, and in order to be a skilled workman, he went to Philadelphia as an apprentice for two and one half years, under a noted bricklayer and contractor. Fully completing and mastering all kinds of brick work, he engaged in business for himself, and in 1869, entered the employ of Alan Wood & Co., of Conshohocken. He built the present rolling mill for the company in 1873, and since then has had charge of all the bricklaying in connection with their great works.

On January 1, 1863, Mr. Caine married Ellen Gourick, of Easton. To their union have been born five children: Stella, Edward, with the Lippincott shoe firm, of Philadelphia, who married Ellen Graver, by whom he had one child, Helen; Alan C., with a paper house of Philadelphia; Aronetta A., deceased; and Bertram.

Mr. Caine is a Republican politically. He is now a member of the town council from the Fifth ward, having served previously one term from the Second ward. He is a member of the Republican League of Conshohocken, and Fritz Lodge No. 420, Free and Accepted Masons of Conshohocken. He served as a Union soldier in the late Civil war, enlisting in Company F, nine-

teenth Pennsylvania infantry on April 12, 1861. His company was stationed successively at Hampton Roads, Fortress Monroe, Annapolis and Baltimore, and he was discharged on August 20, 1861,at the expiration of the regiment's term of service.

AMBROSE DETTRE, a man of education and business ability, and one of the largest real estate dealers of Norristown and Montgomery county, is a son of John H. and Mary (Boyer) Dettre, and was born at Norritonville, Norriton township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, May 27, 1847. He is of German descent, and was reared at Norristown. He received his education in Ursinus college, at Collegeville, and Lafayette college, at Easton, Northampton county, and then taught school, which profession he soon abandoned, to engage in business pursuits. After being variously employed, he opened, in 1882, his present real estate office, at 55 East Main street, Norristown. He also embarked in the general insurance business and in conveyancing. Success has attended his efforts in every line of his business operations. He transacts a large amount of real estate business, represents several of the leading life, fire and accidental insurance companies, and does quite a large conveyancing business. He makes a specialty of real estate transactions, and handles houses, lots, farms, and other valuable pieces of property at Norristown and other places in the county. Mr. Dettre is a pleasant gentleman, of standing, character, and education, who discharges the duties of life earnestly and faithfully. He is a Republican politically.

On July 12, 1871, Ambrose Dettre was united in marriage with Linda W. Loeser, a daughter of James Loeser, of Philadelphia. Their union has been blessed with three children, two sons and a daughter: Alice May, wife of E. Styer, who is engaged in the real estate business at Norristown; R. Ronald, and Linn A.

The Dettre family is noted for longevity as well as for the substantial qualities of the honest and honorable German race of which they are members. Christian Dettre (grandfather), lived near the celebrated "Barley Sheaf" hotel, in Norriton township, where he followed farming. He was a Democrat, and a German Baptist, and lacked but two mile stones of reaching the century point on the pathway of life. He was born 1778, and died 1874. He married Mary Hallman, whose life journey was but little over half of his, she dying September 22, 1822, when in the fifty-fourth year of her age. They reared a family of three sons and two daughters: John H., (father); Christian, of Philadelphia, who is living a retired life; Mary, Ambrose, Thompson, of Philadelphia.

John H. Dettre was born August 10, 1810, in Norriton township, where he grew to manhood on the farm, and received the ordinary education that farmer's sons obtained in that day. His life was devoted principally to farming. Late in life he came to Norristown, where he died February 8, 1892, at eighty-two years of age. He was a Republican, and an active member of the Lutheran church. He was an Odd Fellow, and in early life was a member of one of the old time militia companies then so numerous in Pennsylvania.

John H. Dettre married Mary Boyer, who was born September 20, 1816, and is a daughter of George Boyer, of Norristown. To them were born six sons and four

daughters: Augustus, born 1834, and serving in the auditor's department of the Pennsylvania Railroad company; Henrietta, born November 21, 1836, and wife of Jacob Custer, a farmer of Worcester township; Catharine, born November 21, 1838, and is the widow of Henry Miller; Boyer, born February 14, 1840, and died in Macon, Georgia; John, born March 30, 1842, and now owns one of the largest dry goods and grocery houses of Phœnixville, Chester county; Mary D., born April 1, 1844, who married George W. Neimon, ex-recorder of deeds of this county, and now a resident of Philadelphia; Ambrose, the subject of this sketch; Lewis, born August 18, 1850, and now a resident purchasing agent in Clarion county of the Standard Oil company; Ella, born January 22, 1853, and died at eleven years of age, and Amos, born April 4, 1856, who now holds a position in the office of the Union Electric Street Railway company, of Philadelphia.

SAMUEL GORDON SMYTH, a remarkably active business man and resident of West Conshohocken, is a son of Jonathan and Elizabeth (Ritchie) Smyth, and was born at Penn's Manor, Bucks county, Pennsylvania, July 24, 1859. The name of Smyth and the family is of Scotch-English origin.

About the year 1650, the Smyths, who were Protestants, where compelled by religious persecution, to flee from Cumberland, England, into Scotland, where they remained for a time, but subsequently coming over into Ireland during the "plantation" of Ulster by King James. They settled at Armoy, County Antrim, while the branch that remained in England espoused the dominant religion and in times past became distinguished in the military and naval affairs of Great Britain. The Puritan stock that came to Ireland became principally farmers, and among them sprang some ardent church men.

Rev. Richard Smyth, D. D., M. P., a cousin of the subject of this sketch, was a distinguished divine of the Presbyterian church of Ireland, and has served with honor as a member of the parliament of Great Britain, representing the city of Londonderry, where he was professor of Hebrew and of theology in Magee college. Another cousin is Rev. Jackson Wray Smyth, who was, until his recent decease, the "Protestant Primate" of Ireland. Both of these cousins were Moderators of the General Assembly.

James Smith (grandfather), residing at the Cathedral of Armagh, was a farmer and a Presbyterian elder, and married Martha Gray, a sister of Robert Gray, whose son, coming to Philadelphia as a boy, became the celebrated Philadelphia brewer of that name. I. Smyth died in 1861, at Ballymoney, aged sixty-eight years, and his widow passed away in 1868, when seventy-six years of age. They reared a family of six sons and one daughter: Jonathan, Hannah, William, James, Samuel, Hugh, and Alexander.

Jonathan Smyth (father), was born at Finvoy, County Antrim, Ireland, in 1813, and came to the United States about 1840. He engaged in the grocery business in Philadelphia, and in 1859 removed to Falls township, Bucks county, where he followed farming for a few years, and then began the grocery business, which he conducted at Newtown up to the time of his death, which occurred January 3, 1873. He was a strong Republican in politics. A lame

leg prevented him from serving the Union army during the Civil war.

He was a strict Presbyterian, and an Odd Fellow. He married Elizabeth Ritchie, who is a daughter of the late John Ritchie, of Bridgeport, Montgomery county, and was born in Philadelphia, in 1831. They reared three sons and five daughters: William, James, Martha, Samuel Gordon, Anna E., Margaret J., Mary J., and Susan; the three first named and the last, Susan, all dying in infantcy.

S. Gordon Smyth received his education in the common schools of Bucks county and at Newtown academy for a term. At sixteen years of age he went to sea on a vessel bound for Savannah, Georgia, in which city he resided for a time. While in the steamship service of the Reading Coal and Iron company, he contracted small-pox from nursing a man with that disease, and through General Sickels' intercession, was admitted into a Philadelphia hospital. Recovering, he went to Cape May, New Jersey, in 1877, where he learned the tin-working and heater business, which he followed for three years. In 1881 he entered the employ of Moro Phillips, a large chemical manufacturer of Philadelphia, with whom he remained until that gentleman's death, but was retained and advanced by the trustees of the estate. He is now a teller in the Merchants' Exchange bank, at Third and Dock streets, and has resided at West Conshohocken since 1891.

On July 24, 1879, Mr. Smyth wedded Mary E. Duke, whose father is Francis K. Duke, the present coroner of Cape May, New Jersey. They have three children: Francis A., Marion M., and S. Gordon, jr.

In politics Mr. Smyth is a Republican. He has served as a member of the board of health, and is president of the town council. He is a member, trustee, and a ruling elder of the Presbyterian church of Conshohocken, and clerk of the session. He is also an Encampment Odd Fellow, and a member of the Montgomery County Historical society, to which he has contributed some valuable articles that have been published, notably one relating to Charles Thompson, secretary of the Continental Congress, whose old home is adjacent to "Rylmont," the residence of the subject of this sketch.

JOHN FEARNSIDE, a merchant of West Conshohocken, is a son of Benjamin and Anna Belle (Leith) Fearnside, and was born at Aberdeen, Scotland, March 18, 1859. His grandfather, John Fearnside, was born, reared and educated at Yorkshire, England, where he was engaged for some years as a woolen manufacturer. In middle life he removed to Aberdeen, Scotland, where he followed woolen manufacturing up to the time of his death. His family consisted of three sons and two daughters. One of these sons, Benjamin Fearnside (father), was born at Aberdeen, and came to this country in 1890, but soon returned to his native city, where he died. He was a woolen manufacturer, and a Presbyterian dissenter, and was twice married. His second wife was Anna Belle Leith. By his second marriage Benjamin Fearnside had eight children: Caroline, Jane, Wilhilmina, Benjamin, deceased; John, subject; Isabella, Carrie Belle; and one child which died in infancy.

John Fearnside grew to manhood in his native city, received an ordinary English education, and assisted his father in the

woolen manufacturing business until 1880. In that year he came to this country and spent one year in Wisconsin. He then came to Conshohocken and was employed for six years in the spinning department of George Bullock & Co.'s woolen mill. During that time he was made secretary of a co-operative store at West Conshohocken, and soon became manager, which position he held until 1890, when he purchased the building and entire stock of goods. He does a general mercantile business, and has a good patronage. He gives his time chiefly to the management of his store, yet takes an interest in local affairs. He has been a Republican since coming to the United States, and supports the ticket of that party at State and National elections. He is a member of the Protestant Episcopal church.

On June 6, 1881, John Fearnside was united in marriage with Maggie Gordon, who is a daughter of James Gordon. Their union has been blessed with three children, two sons and a daughter: Anne Belle, Gordon D., and Albert Russell.

THADDEUS S. ADLE, one of the leading jewelers of Norristown, is a son of Jacob and Sarah Koplin Adle, and was born in Norristown, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, on August 24, 1848. After spending some time in the public schools of his native town, he attended the Quaker City Business college of Philadelphia, for several terms. Leaving school, he entered the employ of W. T. Koplin, of Norristown, with whom he remained for several years. In 1871 he went into business for himself and has conducted an independent enterprise ever since.

Politically, Mr. Adle has always been a staunch supporter of the Republican party, and has served as school director in Norristown for three successive terms. He has also been treasurer of the board for two out of the three terms. In his fraternal relations he is a member of Charity Lodge No. 190, Free and Accepted Masons, and filled the position of district deputy grand master for thirteen years. For a period of eleven years he has acted in the capacity of deputy high priest and at present is grand standard bearer of the grand commandery of the Knights Templar, within the jurisdiction of Pennsylvania. Mr. Adle is also a communicant of St. John's Episcopal church, of Norristown, in which he has been honored with the position of vestryman.

In 1880, Mr. Adle espoused in marriage Annie E. Croll, which marriage has resulted in the birth of a daughter, named Helen.

Jacob Adle, father of the subject of this sketch, was a native of Germany, from which country he emigrated to America in 1805. Soon after landing he located at Germantown, Pennsylvania, where he resided for some time and finally removed to Norristown. Here he remained until his death, which occurred in 1866. He at first was engaged in making chairs and later embarked in the grocery business. After a few years he exchanged merchandising for the furniture business, in which latter he remained until 1865. He was a Republican in politics and served as a member of the school board and also as a member of the town council. His marriage with Sarah Koplin was fruitful in the issue of eight children: Theodore, William, Thaddeus S., Anna, Matilda, Markley, deceased; and one dying in infancy. Mrs. Adle departed this life on January 15, 1884, at the age of seventy-nine years.

GEORGE N. HIGHLEY, M. D., who ranks as one of the most skillful and successful physicians and surgeons in Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, is a son of Felix and Susan R. (Corson) Highley, and was born in Schuylkill township, Chester county, Pennsylvania, August 13, 1859.

The name is of German origin, and was originally spelled Heilich, but has since been changed and anglicized until it is now Highley. The original emigrant —— Heilich (Highley) came from Germany in about 1740, settled in Lower Providence township, Montgomery county, this state, and from him the family which is so numerous and prosperous in eastern Pennsylvania is descended. One of his sons John Highley, who was the great-great grandfather of Dr. Highley, was a prosperous farmer and justice of the peace of Lower Providence township. He lived there during the Revolutionary war, and saw, as a civilian, many of the hardships and struggles incident to that great Revolutionary struggle; his remains now lie buried in his native township. Henry Highley, great grandfather, was born in Lower Providence township, but finally removed to Schuylkill township, Chester county, where he resided the remainder of his life, dying in the same house in which Dr. Highley was born. He was a thrifty and well to do farmer, a Whig in politics, a member of the Mennonite church; his remains were interred in the Phœnixville Mennonite cemetery. He wedded Hannah Saylor (daughter of Valentine Saylor, who was brought over from Germany by his father, Peter Saylor, at the age of three years), who was born in Phœnixville in 1765, and who died in 1831. They had a large family among whom was George Highley, grandfather, who was born in Schuylkill township in 1800, and who died in 1874, in Lower Providence township, having resided there the greater part of his life, engaged in the peaceful and tranquil pursuits of husbandry. He was a man of few words but possessed extraordinary firmness and shrewdness and was held in high esteem in the community in which he lived. Politically, he was a Whig, but upon the disintegration of that party and the organization of the Republican party in 1856, he became a Republican. His wife was Ann Francis, daughter of John Francis, and a lineal descendant (through her mother, Elizabeth Pennypacker) of Pieter Dirck Keyser, one of the first settlers of Germantown. She was a woman of marked intelligence, who had limited opportunities for culture but possessed a remarkable memory that seemed to retain all that came within its grasp, and which made her a most interesting conversationalist. The children of George and Anna (Francis) Highley were: Henry and Hannah (twins), Thomas, Eliza, Felix Francis, Mary and Deborah—seven in all.

Of these, Felix Francis, father of the subject of this sketch, was born in Lower Providence township, on August 1, 1832, but on attaining his majority, removed to the old homestead in Schuylkill township, Chester county. He cultivated this farm successfully until 1873, when he removed to a farm near Jeffersonville; a few years later he purchased a home in Norristown, where he has since lived, having given up active business pursuits. He is a staunch Republican and at present is a member of borough council of Norristown. On the first of January, 1857, he married Susan R. daughter of Charles and Sarah Egbert Corson, of Lower Providence township, and six children have been born to them, viz: Albert C., who died at the age of twelve years; Dr. George Norman, subject; Ionia, wife of Henry L.

Everitt, editor of *The Miller's Review* of Philadelphia; Charles Corson, the efficient cashier of the Malvern National bank; Sarah Corson, wife of George M. Holstein, manager of the extensive zinc works at Pulaski, Virginia; and Nancy, unmarried, who lives at home with her parents.

Dr. George N. Highley acquired his elementary education in the public schools of his native township, Ivy institute, a seminary at Phœnixville, and in Tremont seminary, at Norristown. Subsequently he entered the medical department of the University of Pennsylvania, and graduated with high honor in the class of 1881. He then located at Roxborough, Phila, where he practiced for a short time, going from there to his present residence and field of practice in Conshohocken. Dr. Highley is a close student of the leading medical literature of the day, keeps himself fully abreast of the advancement and progress made in his profession. He has contributed a number articles to the leading medical journals of the country—articles which show that he possesses fine literary attainments, as well as superior knowledge of the subjects upon which he wrote. He is a prominent and an active member of the Montgomery County Medical society, of the Pennsylvania Medical association, and the Obstetrical society, of Philadelphia. For three years he was an assistant surgeon in the Pennsylvania National guard, and has served two terms as burgess of Conshohocken. He is also a director of the Tradesmen's National bank, of Conshohocken. On June 1, 1887, he wedded Mary W., a daughter of William and Annie H. Wilson, of Conshohocken, and they are the parents of three children: Albert (deceased), Annie Wilson, and Charles Corson Highley, jr.

JOHN H. CRANKSHAW, of Norristown, one of the unusually successful insurance men of the United States, and the present chief supervisor of the Metropolitan Life Insurance company of New York, is a son of James and Ellen (Smalley) Crankshaw, and was born in Chorley, Lancashire, England, February 23, 1845. His paternal grandfather, John Crankshaw, was a native of Chorley, and died at Belmont, England, September 4, 1872, aged eighty-one years. He was a calico printer by trade, a Liberal in English politics, and a devoted Methodist in religion. He married Margaret Weir, of Rathfriland, County Armagh, Ireland, whose family was of Scotch-Irish descent, and produced two leading and prominent clergymen of the Methodist church. Mrs. Crankshaw died in 1881, at eighty-seven years of age. Their children, six in number, were: Nancy, James, Hamilton, Rev. John Weir, Margaret, and Horatio. Nancy Crankshaw, the only white woman that remained in Atlanta, Georgia, when it was besieged during the late Civil war, married Judge Thomas Spencer, who was in the machine business at Philadelphia and Atlanta, Georgia, from 1842 until his death in 1888. He was a native of Lancashire, England, and his son-in-law, P. J. Moran, is now associate editor of the *Atlanta Constitution*, and was the coadjutor of Henry Grady. James Crankshaw, the second child, is the father of the subject of this sketch. Hamilton Crankshaw, a machinist by trade, came with Judge Spencer in 1842 to Philadelphia, and afterwards removed to Atlanta, Georgia, where he is in the lumber business, and where his son Charles is one of the leading jewelers of that city.

Rev. John Weir, a distinguished Methodist clergyman, died in England, at the age of forty-five years. Margaret Crankshaw

J. H. Crawshaw

married John Ormrod, who was a calico machine printer by trade, and is now a retired capitalist of Blackpool, England. Horatio Crankshaw, the youngest child, who served as an office boy with the firm of Tennant & Son, cotton brokers, of Liverpool, of which he afterwards became a member, is now a general broker in London, England. James Crankshaw (father), was born in the town of Over Darwin, Lancashire, England, in 1818, and learned the trade of calico printer, which he followed until 1882, when he came to Norristown, where he died May 29, 1891, aged seventy-three years. He married Ellen Smalley, who was a daughter of Thomas Smalley, of Chorley, England. She died in 1867, at the age of forty-five years. Mr. and Mrs. Crankshaw had a family of six children: John H., (subject); Nancy Ellen, who died at sixteen years of age; Elizabeth Ann, wife of James Warbrick, of Bolton, England; Thomas H., now engaged in business at Norristown; Margaret Alice, wife of Thomas Wiggins, a resident of Leyland, England; and Joseph Weir, engaged in the insurance business at Over Darwin, England.

John H. Crankshaw was reared in his native shire and received in boyhood but a meagre education. At the age of seven and one-half years he found employment as a helper to his father at calico printing, and when but fourteen years of age he entered the bleaching and finishing department of Mortfield works at Bolton, where he made sixteen hours a day for several years in a room at an average temperature of from one hundred and thirty to one hundred and sixty degrees. At the early age of twenty-two years he was made foreman of the department of bleaching and finishing with a force of fifty men and women under his orders, and so well discharged the duties of his responsible position, that three years later he was offered the management of the entire works at Birkacre, Chorley, England. The business was conducted under eight separate branches, and employed two hundred and fifty people. He quit on account of some unwarranted and hurtful interference with his religious principles by the proprietor, but having by this time established his reputation as a man of unusual business ability, he was not long out of permanent employment. Of several advantageous offers made him, Mr. Crankshaw in 1873 accepted the position of assistant superintendent of the Prudential Life Insurance company, of London, England, and for seven years had special charge of the English towns of St. Ellens, Widness, Warrington, and Bolton. In his new field he met with unusual success, and, in 1880, left the Prudential company, upon the personal solicitation of Brice Collard, of New York City, who had just solved the problem of industrial insurance in the United States, in the formation of the Metropolitan Insurance company. At Mr. Collard's urgent request, he came, in 1880, to this country, and assumed charge of the Metropolitan's business in North Philadelphia. When he assumed charge he had a force of seven men. After fifteen years of effectual work, he has organized and built up a business in his original district that now requires a constant force of six hundred men, and has increased from nothing to four hundred thousand policy holders, with an annual premium of over one million dollars. The Middle Philadelphia District offices are at the northeast corner of Sixth street and Girard avenue, and have desk room for two hundred and fifty employees, and an entire floor space of forty-eight hundred square feet, and in his original district there are

now seven hundred and fifty men employed by the company. The healthy growth and remarkable increase of the business under his charge since 1880, has been phenomenal and has never been equalled in any other division of his own or in any division of any other insurance company in the world. Mr. Crankshaw resided in Philadelphia up to 1883, in which year he removed to his present handsome residence at 1202 DeKalb street, Norristown, where he has a beautiful and luxurious home.

On June 17, 1870, Mr. Crankshaw married Sarah Southworth, who was a daughter of William Wilson, of Leyland, and died January 22, 1883, aged forty-two years, leaving three children, who are still living: Frederick Weir, editor of the *Industrial Herald*, and a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, who is now an attorney-at-law and a member of the present legal firm of Smyth, Carlisle & Crankshaw, of Nos. 136-138 South Fourth street, Philadelphia; Florence and Arthur H., attending school. On Christmas day, 1883, Mr. Crankshaw wedded for his second wife Mary A. Crankshaw, a daughter of Joseph Crankshaw, of Philadelphia.

In England, Mr. Crankshaw was a Liberal in politics, and since becoming a resident of the United States, he has supported the Republican party. He has never refused to serve in any position when called upon to do so, and hence has been a member of town council since 1891, now serving his second term. He is an active member of Oak Street Methodist Episcopal church, in which he has served for ten years as leader of the choir and other offices. While residing in England he served for some time as a local minister in the Primitive Methodist church, with which he had united in 1867. John H. Crankshaw is one of the highest degree Masons in the United States, being a Scottish Rite or Thirty-second Degree Mason, and holding present membership in Montgomery Lodge No. 19, Free and Accepted Masons; Columbia Chapter No. 91, Royal Arch Masons; and Corinthian Commandery No. 53, Knights Templar, and Philadelphia Consistory, A. & A. Rite. He is a past master, past high priest, and past commander in the Masonic fraternity. He is also a member of Hepana Tribe, Improved Order of Red Men; Lu Lu Temple, A. A. O. N., of the Majestic Shrine; Alfred the Great Lodge of the Order of the Sons of St. George; and Appollo Senate, Order of Sparta.

In such a career as Mr. Crankshaw's, of which we have given the meagre outline, there is much of interest and much of useful value to those who are dependent upon their own efforts in life. The influences and lessons of such a life cannot be summed up in a few brief paragraphs. His continued success testifies as words cannot to his business ability, power of organization, and force of will.

WILLIAM AMOS EVANS, a leading Republican and successful business man of Norristown, is a son of Elisha and Eliza W. (Hansel) Evans, and was born in Upper Merion township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, May 30, 1856. The Evans family has had honorable record in Montgomery county since its early settlement, and is from Wales, where the name occurs in local and public records for over three centuries. The family has always possessed those solid and substantial qualities upon which the public welfare and all private prosperity rest. Over a century ago Elisha Evans resided at the site of College-

ville, where he was a prominent and influential man. He was active in all matters of county interest, as well as those of local importance. He was instrumental in securing the erection of the Perkiomen bridge, the finest structure of its kind in the county, and hardly has its superior in south-eastern Pennsylvania. His son, Edward Evans, was a man of common education, but possessed of excellent business ability and succeeded well in all of the enterprises in which he was engaged. He was a Friend, and died February 1, 1856, when nearing the close of his eighty-fourth year. His wife passed away in 1848.

Elisha Evans, the father of William A. Evans, was born in Richland township, Chester county, in 1812. He was a farmer by occupation, but had in early life learned the trade of plasterer, which he never followed to any great extent. He owned teams that ran on the old Lancaster pike and also hauled freight from Philadelphia to Pittsburg in anti-railroad days. He resided successively at Swedeland, and in Upper Merion township, this county, where he owned a farm. In March, 1862, be became a resident of Lower Providence township, in which he passed the last eighteen years of his life. He died December 12, 1880, aged sixty-eight years. He was a Quaker and Radical Republican, and married Eliza W. Hansel, who was born in 1825, and is a daughter of Charles W. Hansel, who resided in Upper Merion township. Their children were: Mary E. Barry; Jonathan Cleaver; Henry Pawling, deceased; Charles Edward; John Wentz, deceased; John Henderson, deceased; Benjamin Franklin, deceased; William Amos, subject; Catharine Supplee and Rebecca Ellen, now dead.

William A. Evans, was reared on a farm, received his education in the common schools and Ursinus college which he attended for a number of years. He afterwards taught mathematics in the same institution, and, in 1877, accepted a place in Gregory's Business College, of New York City. He afterwards taught in the public schools, and was principal from 1882 until 1887, of the West Manayunk public schools. In the last named year he retired from teaching, and has given his time principally to his present successful real estate, conveyancing and insurance business, at Norristown, which he had established in 1885. Mr. Evans has always been a Republican in politics, and is now serving his second term as president of the Republican Invincibles, a political club, of Norristown. He was elected a justice of the peace in the First ward in 1885, and re-elected in 1890, and served three years as a member of the school board, and four successive terms as president of the board of health, which last position he resigned. He is a Mason, being a member of Phoenix Lodge No. 75, Free and Accepted Masons; Mountain Chapter No. 190, Royal Arch Masons, and Hutchinson Commandery No. 32, Knights Templar.

On October 14, 1880, Mr. Evans married Emma J. Davis, a daughter of Jefferson Davis, a farmer and butcher of Lower Providence township. To their union have been born six children: Mabel L., Anson B., Charles C., Brita S., Franklin Buchanan, deceased; and William Amos, jr.

NELSON FREDERICK SCHMIDT, D. D., the efficient pastor of the Jerusalem Lutheran church of Schwenksville, and the St. James Lutheran church of Lim-

erick, is a son of Rev. John Henry Schmidt and Louisa Ann (Newman) Schmidt, and was born at Treverton, Northumberland county, Pennsylvania, on December 11, 1866.

Rev. John Henry Schmidt was born August 9, 1827, at Euger, in the province of Westphalia, Prussia. He was the son of J. H. Schmidt and his wife, Anna Catharine, nee Dustman. His mother died when he was between sixteen and seventeen years of age, and his father just as he had reached his nineteenth year. His early education was received in the German Normal school with the view of preparing for the office of teaching. He came to this country in 1852, reaching Baltimore October 27. After spending two years in teaching and other employments, he went to Pennsylvania college, at Gettysburg, to complete his education. Later he entered the Theological seminary at the same place and prepared for the Gospel ministry. He was licensed by the Allegheny synod in 1861, and afterward ordained by the same synod in 1863. His first field of labor was at Altoona, Blair county, where he remained a little over four years, organizing the St. James Lutheran congregation, now one of the prominent congregations of the city. Leaving Altoona, he served the Treverton charge in Northumberland county four years, the White Haven charge in Luzerne county for seven years and finally the Freeland charge, which had been part of the White Haven charge, but was taken from it in 1876, until the 25th of October, 1891, when he retired from the active ministry on account of impaired health. His labors were mostly of a missionary and pioneer character, and in German localities, where he was very successful. He still resides at Freeland, Luzerne county, Pennsylvania.

He married Louisa Ann Newman, a daughter of Charles and Christina Newman, of Hanover, York county, Pennsylvania, on October 27, 1862. They have five children living: Bertha, wife of Adolph Weisz, of Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania; Rev. Nelson F.; Lulu, a teacher; William J., a graduate of Muhlenberg college; and Edgar H., a leading jeweler of Freeland, Pennsylvania.

Rev. Nelson F. Schmidt received his literary education at Muhlenberg college, at Allentown, Pennsylvania, from which honored institutien of learning he was graduated in the class of 1886. Leaving college, he entered the Lutheran Theological seminary of Philadelphia, then on Franklin street, and was graduated in 1889. During the summer of 1888 he spent upwards of three months missionating among the neglected Lutherans of south-western Virginia. The esteem in which his labors were held can best be shown by the fact that in the fall of the same year he received a call from south-western Virginia synod to become its traveling missionary, a position which was declined simply on account of its great responsibility and his fear that he would not be able to meet its requirements because of his limited experience. After his graduation, he was ordained to the Lutheran ministry on June 17, 1889, and immediately took charge of the Schwenksville-Limerick charge, from which he had previously received a call. He has labored faithfully and successfully in this charge, and his labors have been duly appreciated by his congregations, while he has gained and holds the respect of the public and the members of other religious denominations.

On June 19, 1890, Rev. Schmidt was united in marriage with Eva A. Sweitzer, a daughter of Benjamin K. and Amelia

Sweitzer, of Allentown, this state. Their union has been blessed with one child, a son, named Nelson S., who was born January 2, 1892.

JOHN BISSON FISHER, who is engaged in the meat and grocery business at Bridgeport, is a son of Henry and Mary Ann (Bisson) Fisher, and was born August 19, 1849, at Barren Hill, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania. His paternal grandfather emigrated from Germany to America, and located at Barren Hill, where he was engaged in agricultural pursuits. He was a supporter of the Democratic party, and married Margaret Katz. To them were born five children: Samuel, Henry, Louisa, Harriet McGinn, and Margaret Hallman. Henry Fisher (father) was born at Barren Hill, and passed his early life with his father upon the farm. Arriving at manhood, he learned the trades of cabinet-:maker and mill-wright, but soon afterward became engaged in the carpentering business, which he followed during the greater part of his life. From 1858 until his death, he resided at Chestnut Hill. He was a Republican and was enthusiastic in political matters, but neither sought for nor ever held any office. At the time of Lincoln's assassination, Mr. Fisher was instrumental in causing the whole village of Chestnut Hill to be draped in mourning. He was three times married. He first married Mary Ann Bisson, and this union was blessed with three children: John B., Anna Zimmerman and Margaret Louisa. By his second marriage he had one child: Clara Hutzler. After the death of the second Mrs. Fisher, he wedded Barbara Maust, and to this third union were born six children: Harry, Charles, Samuel, Thomas, Ella and Laura. Mr. Fisher died in November, 1875, in the fifty-sixth year of his age.

At eleven years of age John B. Fisher became engaged as a chore boy for a farmer in White Marsh township, with whom he remained five years. He then resided with his uncle for a short time and afterwards learned the trade of plumber. For a time he was engaged at Chestnut Hill, and in 1874 he removed to Norristown. Always having had a liking for farming, he became manager of a farm belonging to Daniel Longaker. Remaining there for five years, he then went to Atchison county, Kansas, and later returned to Norristown, where he again devoted his time to agricultural pursuits for three years. Owing to ill health, Mr. Fisher was obliged to retire for a time from active business, but after recovering his health somewhat, his energy caused him to start in business once more. This was in 1886, and he established a meat market on DeKalb street, Bridgeport, where he remained two years. At the end of that time he removed to Fourth and DeKalb streets, and in addition to a meat market there, he has also a grocery store. One year after coming to the place where he now resides, he tore down the old dwelling and erected a handsome residence adjoining his business rooms. He takes an active part in the Pioneer Lawn Mower Company, which manufactures the Pioneer Lawn Mower, patented by Rowley R. Ortt. This company organized with the following officers: Daniel D. Dreslin, president; Mathias A. March, secretary; John B. Fisher, treasurer, and R. R. Ortt, superintendent. The company has just completed their factory, a fine two-story brick building,

thirty by sixty feet, with an additional building twenty feet square. The prospects are encourageing for the erection of another building of the same size. Already many orders from the country have been sent in, and the success of the business is largely due to the efforts of Mr. Fisher.

He votes the Republican ticket, and is a member of the Knights of the Golden Eagle and of the Sons of Temperance. He is also a member of the First Baptist Church, of Bridgeport, in which he serves as a trustee and deacon.

On January 28, 1877, Mr. Fisher was united in marriage with Ella Andrews, a daughter of Andrew Andrews, of Lancashire, England, who came to this country in 1866. Mr. Andrews located at Norristown where he now resides at No. 330 East Marshall street. He married Eliza Newton, and they have the following children: Elizabeth, Ella, Anis, Newton, Mary Taverner, widow; Anna Bardsley and Eunice Freed.

MATHIAS HARLEY, one of the oldest citizens of Norristown, is a son of Jacob and Susan (Johnson) Harley, and was born near Sumneytown, Franconia township, this county, on December 2, 1826. The nationality of the Harleys has been a disputed question, some claiming them to be English, others German, but researches have been made and the family has been traced back to the fifteenth century and it is found for certain that it is of German origin. In those days it was a very prominent family and there were several authors and doctors among the members of the family at that time. In 1685, when the Protestants were persecuted and compelled to become Catholics or leave the country, the ancestors of the Harley family, with many thousands of others, departed from Germany and fled to England. They soon became prominent in their new country and some of their descendants obtained positions of high honor and trust in England. One member of the family by the name of Rudolph Harley, who emigrated from Germany to America in 1719, was the great-great-grandfather of the subject of this sketch. His great-grandfather, Rudolph, jr., was born on board ship on the voyage across the Atlantic.

Mathias Harley received his education in the common schools of his native township. Leaving school at an early age, he learned the trade of milling, but in which he was not engaged for any extended time. Upon the death of his father, which occurred in the year 1846, he assumed control of the mercantile business of the latter and also took charge of the home farm in Worcester township. Soon after, he purchased a part of the farm and occupied it. Here he remained until the year 1857, when he came to Fairview and re-engaged in the mercantile business. He maintained his connection with the mercantile business for a period of thirty-four years and still owns the original property. He served as postmaster at Fairview for a period of thirty-one years and at the termination of this long period of service he resigned. In addition to his mercantile interests, he is a part owner of the Fairview Village creamery, established in 1881, and of which company he still serves as treasurer. Since the year 1891, he has resided in Norristown, where he has contented himself by living a rather retired life. He has been an active propagator of the interests of the Western market.

Mr. Harley has always been an active and aggressive Democrat and for a number

of years was the recognized leader of his party in his district. During his later years he has practically withdrawn from participation in political and public affairs. In his religious affiliations he is a member of the Brethren (Dunker) church.

On December 21, 1847, Mr. Harley was united in marriage to Isabella Hendricks, who died November 15, 1848. This union was blessed with one son, Aaron H., who is the present proprietor of the Ridge Avenue hotel in Philadelphia, and largely interested in real estate. After the death of his first wife, Mr. Harley married Sarah Mattern, on November 27, 1851, and to this union were born five children: Milton, now engaged in the wholesale carpet business, at Eleventh and Market streets, Philadelphia; Clara, wife of Jacob Brendlinger, of Norristown; Elizabeth, wife of Remandus Scheetz, of Norristown; Adalaide, wife of John Oller, of Brooklyn, New York; and Sarah Harley, of Norristown.

Abraham Harley, paternal grandfather of Matthias Harley, was a resident of Franconia township, where he owned a large farm and for many years was engaged in agricultural pursuits. He died September 20, 1833. His children were ten in number and named as follows: Jacob, Abram, Rudolph, Samuel, Benjamin, Henry, William, John, Elizabeth and Mary Price.

Jacob Harley, father, was also a native of Franconia township. He was educated in the common schools and after attaining the age of maturity, became interested in the mercantile business. Later in life he removed to Worcester township, where he turned his attention to farming, in which he was engaged during the remaining period of his life. He was a member of the Federalist party and was an attendant and communicant of the Brethren church. He married Elizabeth Krupp, by whom he had four children. He was married twice, his second wife being Susan Johnson, who died in the year 1856, in the seventy-third year of her age. To this second union was born one child, Matthias, who is the subject of this sketch.

MAHLON HILLEGAS, a retired merchant and highly respected citizen of East Greenville, this county, is a son of Charles and Christiana (Graber) Hillegas, and was born July 19, 1829, in Milford township, Bucks county, Pennsylvania. A full and authentic account of the Hillegas family in this country has been very carefully prepared and contributed by Michael Reed Minnick, of Philadelphia, and will be found eslewhere in this volume. Our subject received the limited education, such as the district school provided in his day. He learned the mercantile business by clerking in his father's store, and after sufficiently mastering the details of the business, he launched a mercantile venture on his own account on a modest scale at East Greenville, where he soon built up one of the largest general mercantile trades in that part of the county, and continued in profitable business until, by impaired hearing, he was rendered incapable, when he retired and has since lived on a handsome competency at East Greenville. Mr. Hillegas' father was one of the projectors and chief promoters of the Green Lane and Goshenhoppen Turnpike Road company, organized 1851, and served for many years as president. Our subject has succeeded him in acting as treasurer ever since 1863. Mr. Hillegas is a Democrat and an elder and consistent member of the New Goshenhop-

pen Reformed church. On October 1, 1859, he was united in marriage with Sallie W., daughter of Daniel Eberhard, a farmer of Lower Milford township, Lehigh county, Pa. This union was blessed with one child, a son, Cyrus Ellsworth, who died in infancy.

WM. FRANKLIN DANNEHOWER, a well known and popular member of the Montgomery county bar, is the youngest son of John G. and Susanna (Cressman) Dannehower, and was born December 17, 1854, at Zeiglersville, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania. Like so many prominent citizens of the Keystone State, Mr. Dannehower is descended from German ancestors, resolute pioneers who left the Rhenish provinces of the Fatherland at an early day to find a new home in the western world. There were three brothers of the name who came over together and settled in different parts of Pennsylvania, from whom have descended all of the Dannehowers of America, as far as known. For several generations a branch of the family has been resident in the county of Montgomery, in the northern part of which John Dannehower, paternal grandfather of the subject of this sketch, was born and reared. He was a miller by occupation, and owned and operated a grist mill, flaxseed mill and other enterprises in Marlborough township. He also owned a tannery in Bucks county, and was likewise engaged in saw-milling and farming, being one of the largest real estate owners of his section. Politically he was a Jacksonian Democrat, and in religion a member of the Lutheran church. He was twice married, first to Elizabeth Groff, by whom he had eight children: Elizabeth, married Benjamin Johnson; Sarah, married John Bealer; Hannah, wedded Jesse Roller; Jacob, Jesse, John G., father; Henry G., and Philip. After his first wife's death, who was born October 1, 1791, and died January 9, 1824, John Dannehower married Elizabeth Zink. He died June 11, 1846, aged sixty-three years, having been born September 5, 1783. His son, John G. Dannehower, (father), was born in Marlborough township, this county, December 6, 1816, and became a clerk, after which he followed huckstering for a time, and then purchased a farm near Zeiglersville and engaged in agricultural pursuits. In 1856 he purchased and removed to a hotel in Tylersport, which he successfully conducted until about 1883, when he leased the hotel to his son, Jacob P. Dannehower, and retired from active business. He died June 14, 1884, and was buried at Indian Field Lutheran church, of which he was a prominent member, in Franconia township. He was a Democrat in politics and held a number of local offices. In business affairs he was always successful, being a self-made man of rare good judgment, and at the time of his death, and for many years previous, was treasurer of the Tylersport Mutual Live Stock Insurance company. On March 4, 1838, he married Susanna Cressman, a daughter of Jacob B. Cressman. She died at Trumbauersville, Pa., January 23, 1895. They had a family of eight children: Matilda, wife of Roller R. Cressman, born May 9, 1839, died December 19, 1865; Catharine A., second wife of R. R. Cressman, now deceased, born December 28, 1841, and now the wife of David T. Breisch, of Trumbauersville, Pa.; Benjamin, born February 2, 1843, died January 2, 1846; Hon. John C., born February 8, 1845, who was a wholesale manufacturer of cigars with R. R. Cressman, served for a number

of years as a justice of the peace, was twice elected to the State Assembly, and died December 20, 1884; Jacob P., born February 2, 1847, and died March 7, 1892; Henry, born October 1, 1849; a daughter born April 4, 1852, who died in infancy; and William Franklin, the subject of this sketch.

William Franklin Dannehower was reared at Tylersport, this county, and obtained his elementary education in the public schools. He afterwards attended the Kutztown State Normal School one year, and in 1871–72 was a member of the Excelsior Normal Institute at Carversville, Bucks county. In the spring of 1872 he entered Lafayette college, and was graduated from that institution in the class of 1876, with the degree of A. B., being selected as one of the commencement orators. In the autumn of 1877 he became a law student in the office of G. R. Fox at Norristown, and while studying law acted as editor of the *Weekly Register*, and was special correspondent of several leading New York and Philadelphia journals, besides acting as clerk in the prothonotary's office at Norristown. Having completed his preparation for the bar, Mr. Dannehower was admitted to practice June 7, 1880, and since that time has been continuously engaged in the duties of his profession. He has figured prominently in a number of important cases before the courts here, among which may be mentioned the appeal from the assessments of the mercantile appraisers, assessing butchers with mercantile taxes, in which Mr. Dannehower acted as attorney for the Butchers' association, and secured a decision exempting its members from the payment of these taxes. He has also been connected with several trials for capital offenses, in all of which he has shown legal ability and acquaintance with historical jurisprudence. For some years he has enjoyed an extensive practice in the Orphans' Court, but is a good, general practitioner and very successful in that line. In 1890 he acted as solicitor for the coroner, sheriff and treasurer. He is solicitor of the Lansdale Trust and Safe Deposit company, and of the borough of Green Lane, and was for seven years solicitor of the borough of Pennsburg.

In politics Mr. Dannehower is an ardent Democrat, and served for two years, 1886–8, as chairman of the standing committee of his party in this county. He was a candidate for the office of district attorney in 1889, but was defeated by only one hundred and twenty-eight votes in a county largely Republican, and when the Prohibitionists (mostly Republicans), had a full county ticket, except a nominee for district attorney.

He was one of the organizers of the Montgomery County Bar association of Norristown, and has been its secretary since its formation in 1885. He is also a member of the law library committee, and of the committee to revise the rules of court. In religious faith Mr. Dannehower is a Lutheran, and has been secretary of the church council of Trinity Lutheran church for a number of years. He is also a member and trustee of the Jefferson club of Norristown, and served as its president and also as secretary for several years.

On November 30, 1886, Mr. Dannehower was united in marriage to Bessie B. McCarter, a daughter of the late Colonel Samuel McCarter, of Norristown. To Mr. and Mrs. Dannehower have been born two sons and one daughter: Frances B., born November 23, 1887; William Franklin, jr., born January 18, 1889; and Gilbert Lane, born July 28, 1891.

LEWIS A. LUKENS, a prominent retired manufacturer and business man of Conshohocken, this county, is a son of David and Mary (Shepherd) Lukens, and was born April 8, 1807, in Plymouth township, near what is now the borough of Conshohocken. The family, of which Mr. Lukens is a worthy scion, is of Holland ancestry, his great-great-grandfather, John Lukens, having emigrated from Holland to this country in 1683, and became one of the founders of the city of Philadelphia. Among his sons was one, Abraham, father of John Lukens, the grandfather of the subject of this memoir. John Lukens was a man of more than ordinary education for the day in which he lived, especially along the line of mathematics. He was a skilled surveyor, and being a man of close observation, good judgment and retentive memory, became the possessor of many facts of practical scientific value. He wedded Rachel Robinson, and among the children born to this union was David, the father of the subject of this sketch. David Lukens was born October 18, 1761, in Towamencing township, this county, and died in the locality of the present borough of Conshohocken, where he owned a farm, upon which much of that thriving town now stands. He wedded Mary Shepherd, and the following children were born to their marital union: Charles William, born 1790; Elizabeth, born 1795; Aaron, born 1798; Maria, who was born in 1801, and wedded Robert B. Fowler; Rachel, who became the wife of Dr. Samuel Tyson; Lewis A., Edward, born in 1812; and Mark A.

Lewis A. Lukens, after profiting by a common school education, learned the trade of cabinet-maker in Philadelphia, but did not follow that business. He soon returned to his native town and in partnership with his brother, Aaron Lukens, under the firm name of Aaron and L. Lukens, engaged for two years in the lumbering business. At the end of that period Mr. Lukens rented a forge on the Quitipahilla creek in Annville township, Lebanon county, this State, and for ten years engaged in the manufacture of malleable iron. In 1845 he disposed of his interests in Lebanon county and opened an iron store in Philadelphia, which he disposed of to his brother-in-law, William W. Wood. At the end of one year he removed to Bridgeport, this county, and remained there four years in the lumber business. In 1850 Mr. Lukens purchased a farm of one hundred and fifty-six acres in Whitemarsh township, upon which he resided seven years, engaged in agricultural pursuits, and in 1858 entered a partnership with his brother-in-law, Alan Wood, under the firm name of Alan Wood & Co., and built the mill now owned and operated by the Alan Wood company, sheet iron manufacturers of Conshohocken and 519 Arch street, Philadelphia. Mr. Lukens remained a partner in this business until 1877, when he sold his interests to his sons and withdrew, retiring from active business, since which time he has resided in Conshohocken. Mr. Lukens is a Republican politically, and for three years served efficiently as burgess of Conshohocken. In addition to leading a very active business life, he was a member of a number of business enterprises, requiring the exercise of a high order of genius, and he has been prominently connected with the fortunes of the Conshohocken National bank as a director for seventeen years, and as president for four years.

On September 16, 1834, he married Mary T., a daughter of James Wood, an iron worker of Conshohocken, and seven children have been born to this union: Alan

W., who died at the age of about fifty years; Charles, Lewis, deceased; Jawood, president of the Long Mead Iron works at Conshohocken; Frank, deceased; Mary S., wife of Charles F. Corson, of Philadelphia; Clara, wife of Charles Heber Clark, editor of the *Manufacturer*, and secretary of the Manufacturers' club of Philadelphia. Lewis A. Lukens possesses in an eminent degree a combination of mental qualities that insure success in any line of business, towards which he chose to direct his attention. He has not only achieved an enviable success as a business man, but what is more, a warm place in the hearts of his fellow citizens. In his dealings with his fellow man he has been uniformly humane and courteous and his every act has been in strict comport with the highest type of Christian manhood.

BENJAMIN D. ABRAHAM, an active and successful farmer of near Merion or Abrams, is a son of Joseph and Ann (Davis) Abraham, and was born on the old homestead in Upper Merion township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, February 6, 1826. Reared on the farm and trained to agricultural pursuits, he engaged, upon attaining his majority, in farming, which has been his life occupation ever since. He attended the common schools and has added largely since to the brief education he obtained there, by reading and study. He is thoroughly acquainted with farm management and all kinds of farm work. In politics Mr. Abraham is a Democrat, who believes in the principles of Democracy as enunciated by Jefferson and enforced by Jackson.

On February 6, 1851, Benjamin D. Abraham was united in marriage with Jane Eastburn, whose father, Samuel Eastburn, is a resident of Upper Merion, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania. To their union has been born eight children, three sons and five daughters: Anna Mary, died in infancy; Margaret J., wife of William B. Thomas, now a resident of Upper Merion township; Josephine, married Alfred Taylor, of New York city; George, who died in infancy: Emma J., wife of Owen L. Evans, of Philadelphia; Edwin M., Owen E., and Alice, who are still at home.

The founder of the Abraham family in Pennsylvania was an Abraham whose Christian name is supposed to have been Isaac. He and his wife Sarah came from England to Pennsylvania in the same year that Penn came over in the *Welcome*. Mr. Abraham made a choice of a home in Chester county, where he and his wife passed their remaining days. Their son, James Abraham, sr., was sufficiently impresssed with the country in Upper Merion township, this county, to become a settler within its boundaries when its white residents were few in number. He purchased near the site of Merion station, a tract of land on which he built, and there he passed his life. He married and his son, Isaac Abraham, succeeded as owner of the home farm. Isaac Abraham wedded Dinah Harvard, and their son, James Abraham, jr., wedded Hannah George, and was the father of Joseph Abraham, the third owner of the homestead farm, which has come down from father to son, for about two hundred years. Joseph Abraham was a farmer, a Democrat and a Baptist and in every relation of life, was active, successful and respected. Born December 31, 1788, he lived to reach his sixty-second year and died March 25, 1850. His remains sleep in Tremont cemetery. He married Ann Davis, a daughter of Benjamin Davis, and to them were born

five sons and six daughters. The sons were: James, Benjamin D. (subject), Isaac G., Thomas D., and Joseph, who died in infancy. The daughters were: Mrs. Hannah Shannon, Mrs. Sarah Philips, Mrs. Eliza Supplee, Mrs. Ann Evans, and Matilda and Emma, who both died in infancy.

When James Abraham, the elder, purchased and settled on the old homestead farm in the dawn of the last century, he was, in a manner, upon the western confines of civilization and had to encounter a part of the privations of frontier life. Many of his sterling qualities have descended in a large measure to some of his descendants, in every one of the six generations that have him as their common ancestor. His farm has been held in succession by those of his descendants who have lived honorable lives, and did credit to an honored ancestry.

FREDERICK LIGHT, a remarkably active business man of Conshohocken, is a son of Charles and Christina (Souders) Light, and was born in one of the states of the present German empire, January 1, 1822. His father, Charles Light, came from Gatherim, in Baden Baden. He learned the trade of blacksmithing, went to France, served under Napoleon in his fateful Moscow campaign, and came about 1824, to New York. He afterwards removed to Beechwood, New Jersey, next to Easton, this State, and finally settled in the city of Philadelphia, where he remained until his death, at the age of eighty years. He was a Democrat, and a member of the Reformed church, and married Christina Souders, who was a native of Germany, and lived to be fifty-eight years of age. Of their children, five lived to maturity: Englehart, killed in the Mexican war; Frederick, the subject of this sketch; Henry, Charles, who died some years ago from the effects of wounds received at the battle of Gettysburg; and Christina.

Frederick Light received a limited education in the early public schools of Philadelphia, and at an early age commenced working on a farm in Plymouth township for his board and clothes. He afterward hired as a farm laborer for three years, then followed huckstering for two years and butchering for five years, and at the end of that time purchased eleven acres of land and a house in the northern part of Conshohocken, in order to give his children the advantage of a good school. In 1862 he divided his land into lots and sold it, and then removed to his present residence. While educating his children he was engaged largely in iron ore digging, and often employed as many as fifteen men. From 1862 to 1866 he owned a number of teams and did a large amount of general hauling. Since then he has been engaged in various enterprises. He constructed the gas plant, superintended the laying of the mains, and served as president of the gas company for many years. He was the projector of the Washita hall, supervised the construction of the First National bank building, and was chiefly instrumental in securing the erection of the new Gulf Christian church of Gulf Mills. Mr. Light has always been active in the various building and loan associations of Conshohocken. He is a director of the First National bank, treasurer of the school board, and a charter member of Gratitude Lodge No. 216, Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He is president of the Home, Welcome, Reliance, Fidelity, Progress, and Conshohocken Building and Loan associations of Conshohocken.

On November 7, 1844, Mr. Light wedded Sarah Knight, who is a daughter of John Knight, of Chester county. To their union have been born seven children: Christina, deceased; Charles, now in Texas; Lydia Jane, deceased; Frederick, a traveling salesman for a belting house; Mary, now deceased; John, superintendent of the Conshohocken Gas works; and Sallie Moulds, of Phœnixville, Chester county.

In politics Mr. Light is Democratic, but in local matters is not governed by political considerations. He served two terms as burgess of Conshohocken, was a member of the town council for several terms, and acted as census enumerator in 1880. He is a member of the Christian church at Gulf Mills, of whose Sunday-school he has been superintendent for forty years. He solicited nearly all the funds to erect the new church edifice and superintended its erection.

ALEXANDER F. GRIFFITH, the present postmaster of Bridgeport, is a son of James and Mary Griffith, who emigrated to America in 1846. He is the youngest of seven children, and was born in Boston, Massachusetts, June 22, 1847. His father was a tanner by occupation, and was so engaged in business until his death, which occurred about eighteen months after the birth of his son Alexander.

At the age of two years, Alexander was brought to Norristown, Pa., by his mother, where he received his education in the public schools of that and the adjoining borough of Bridgeport. He is a barber by trade, in which occupation he was engaged in Norristown for about fifteen years. He is the owner of considerable property in Norristown and Bridgeport, having built a number of fine dwelling houses and several stores in those boroughs.

Mr. Griffith was appointed justice of the peace of Bridgeport by Governor Pattison, which office he held for two years. On August 10, 1893, he received his commission as postmaster of Bridgeport, in which capacity he is still serving. He was married January 1, 1877, to Miss Marie Lawler, who died May 4, 1892. He was again married January 16, 1894, to Miss Annie M. Farrell, of Edgewood, Upper Merion. By his second marriage he has one child, a daughter, named Caroline.

DR. WILLIAM M. HALL. Among Conshohocken's leading and successful physicians is Dr. William M. Hall. He is a son of Hibbard and Joanna (Pugh) Hall, and was born April 27, 1860, at Radnor, Delaware county, Pennsylvania. He received his education in the Philadelphia schools and the State Normal school at West Chester, Pa. Leaving school, he entered Jefferson Medical college, from which he was graduated April 2, 1883. After his graduation he located at Conshohocken, and in 1888 he purchased the property then owned by J. K. Reid, at the corner of Fayette and Third avenue. He has an extensive practice in Conshohocken, and has been very successful in his work. Dr. Hall is a member of the Montgomery County Medical society.

On June 15, 1892, Dr. Hall was united in marriage with Ida E. Gilbert, daughter of Daniel Gilbert, of Conshohocken. Their union has been blessed with one child, Edna Maris.

The Hall family is of English extraction, and Maris Hall, the paternal grandfather

of Dr. Hall, was born at Willistown, Chester county, where he was engaged in agricultural pursuits until his death. He was a member of the Society of Friends, and a supporter of the Republican party. He married Sarah Dutton, by whom he had the following children: Hibbard, Jesse, Barclay, Clarkson, Hannah and Susan, who died very young. Hibbard Hall was born and reared upon a farm near Willistown, where he grew to manhood, surrounded by the beauties of rural scenery, of which he was a daily admirer. He afterward became engaged in the mercantile business in Conshohocken, where he continued a few years and then removed to Radnor township, Delaware county. There for five years he followed merchandising, and then removed to Plymouth Meeting, Montgomery county, where in October, 1865, he died of typhoid fever, at the age of thirty-six years. He taught a school for a time at Radnor, where he met his then future wife. He reared a family of three children: Sallie, who married Lafayette Ross, of Norristown; Dr. William M., subject; and J. Barclay, a druggist, of Norristown. Mr. Hall was a staunch Republican, and made many strong and stirring speeches in the interests of his party. He was a member of the Society of Friends, and won the esteem and respect of all who knew him by living an honest, consistent life. Mrs. Hall was a daughter of William Pugh, and a member of the old Pugh family of Delaware county.

CHARLES LUKENS, a prominent manufacturer of Conshohocken, is a son of Lewis A. and Mary (Wood) Lukens, and was born September 30, 1837, at New Market Forge, Lebanon county, Pennsylvania. (For the ancestral history of Mr. Lukens, see sketch of his father, Lewis A. Lukens, in another part of this work). Mr. Lukens obtained his elementary education in the private schools of Philadelphia, chiefly under the tutelage of Professor Alfred L. Kennedy, afterwards president of the Polytechnic Institute, of Philadelphia. After his father removed to Bridgeport, this county, in 1846, he attended Tremont Seminary, in Norristown, where he received most of his education. After remaining for seven years on the farm in White Marsh township, whither his father had removed from Bridgeport, Mr. Lukens entered the iron mill at Conshohocken, of Alan Wood & Co., where he received that drill which led him into the business of an iron manufacturer, which has been his vocation up to the present time. From 1858 to 1886 he was actively connected with the business as assistant manager, but on the latter date, because of failing health gave up his position, and has since been only nominally connected with the same. In addition to the above, he is a director in the J. E. Lee company, of Conshohocken, engaged in the manufacture of surgical instruments and appliances. Politically Mr. Lukens is a staunch Republican and has served his municipality in the capacities of town councilman, school director, etc. He is a devout and consistent member of Calvary Episcopal Church, at Conshohocken, in the official management of which he has served as warden and vestryman.

On June 5, 1867, he married Miss Annie McFarland, daughter of the late James B. McFarland, a dry goods merchant of Philadelphia, and five children have blessed their marital union: Margaret McFarland, Charles F., deceased; William W., in the

employ of the Alan Wood company, of Conshohocken; George T., attending the Arts Department of the University of Pennsylvania, and Mary S.

Charles Lukens is one of the most popular men of Conshohocken and southern Montgomery county. Of charitable and humane instincts, the worthy poor never appeal to him in vain, and he is well known as a staunch supporter and an enthusiastic advocate of all organized charities and every move which has for its object the amelioration of the miseries of mankind, and the betterment of the mental, moral and physical conditions of the race. This phase of his nature was clearly shown during the financial stringency and general industrial paralysis of 1893, when many families of his borough were unable to secure work, and were reduced to the verge of starvation. In that crisis no one sympathized with them more kindly, nor gave of their substance more cheerfully than did Mr. Lukens. We would say of Mr. Lukens, as his most distinguishing characteristics, that he is kind-hearted, charitable and humane, and is possessed of that sympathy which makes all the world akin.

SAMUEL SLEMMER, who for many years was engaged in active business, but is now living a retired life in Norristown, Pennsylvania, was born in Philadelphia, March 8, 1818. When only two years of age, he moved with his father, Adam Slemmer, to New Hanover township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, and in 1833 to Norristown, and there he finished his education at the old academy, under the supervision of Eliphalet Roberts. In March, 1834, he and his brother William entered the office of his father and assisted him in publishing *The Norristown Register* for nine successive years. At this time he engaged in the mercantile business, which he followed for two years. In 1846 he was appointed clerk in the surveyor general's office at Harrisburg under Governor Shunk and served in that capacity until 1860. A portion of that time he had charge of the department which was formerly the land office. One year later he became interested in the oil business and purchased a tract of land near Titusville, Pennsylvania, where he put down several wells. At the end of two years more he removed to Conneaut, Ohio, and retired from active business, and in 1864 he went to Minnesota.

On May 2, 1855, Mr. Slemmer married Sarah Fifield, who was a daughter of Col. Edward and Sally Fifield, of Conneaut, Ohio, and while preparing to locate permanently in Osborn, Missouri, in 1871, his wife was taken ill and died there. Mr. Slemmer then removed to Norristown, where he has resided ever since.

Samuel Slemmer is a member of the Masonic fraternity, and was also a member of Dauphin Lodge No. 160, I. O. O. F., and chief patriarch of Olive Encampment No. 56, at Harrisburg.

His ancestors were of the nobility of Hungary, but the immediate branch of the family, from which he is descended, emigrated from Basle, Switzerland, about 1740, and settled in Philadelphia. His father, Adam Slemmer, was a very enterprising man in the early history of Norristown. He was a member of the legislature of Pennsylvania for four terms, and was also justice of the peace and prothonotary of the courts of Montgomery county. He was inspector of the prison, and founder of Montgomery cemetery. He was president of the

town council and took great pride in shaping the various industries of the town. He was a man of advanced ideas and served as one of the first directors of the public schools of his town. He never voted anything but the Democratic ticket, and was a member of the old Tammany organization in Philadelphia in 1820 and 1821. Samuel Slemmer, like his father, has always been an ardent Democrat.

MARK HILTEBEITEL, a prosperous farmer and a leading citizen of the borough of Green Lane, is a son of Adam and Sarah (Hoffman) Hiltebeitel, and was born April 31, 1836, in Upper Salford township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania. The paternal ancestry of the family are of distinctively Montgomery county nativity, and they have ranked among the more sturdy and successful agricultural people of the county. Adam Hiltebeitel, the great-grandfather of Mark Hiltebeitel, was born in 1733 and died in 1823, bringing his age to ninety years. His wife, Salome, died at the age sixty-four years.

Grandfather Daniel Hiltebeitel, was a farmer in Upper Salford all his life, and owned a portion of the original tract taken up by his father, Adam Hiltebeitel. He was a Democrat and a very zealous and devoted member of the Reformed church. His wife was Elizabeth Rider, who bore them seven children, four sons and three daughters: Jonas, Adam, Daniel, Jesse, Hannah (Geisinger), Mary Smith, and Catharine. Grandfather Hiltebeitel died at the age of seventy-eight years.

Adam Hiltebeitel (father) was born in Upper Salford township, Montgomery county, and was a farmer of Upper Salford formally, but latterly and up to his death resided in New Hanover township, for a period of forty years. He owned a large farm, and was one of the most successful farmers of the township and became possessed of considerable means. He was a Democrat and a consistent member of the Reformed church at the Swamp. He married Sarah Hoffman, which union resulted in the birth of ten children, the eldest of whom was Mark, the subject of this biographical notice. The other children were: Josiah, Jacob, John, Augustus, Angeline Hoof, Sarah Knouse, Mary Stettler, Irwin and Adeline. The father died May 22, 1882, at the age of seventy-one years. The mother of the subject died at the age of seventy-two years.

Mark Hiltebeitel, the subject proper of our sketch, received the limited education such as the crude rural schools at that day provided. After abandoning the employments of school, he remained with his father until the age of nineteen years when he apprenticed himself to learn the milling trade, which he pursued with profit for ten years at various places. Subsequently, in 1865, he purchased the farm where he resides and where he now owns in all about one hundred and twenty-five acres of fertile land in a high state of cultivation. He does a general farming business.

Mr. Hiltebeitel is interested in the Perkiomen and Sumneytown Turnpike company, and is one of the board of managers. He is also interested in the Perkiomen National bank at East Greenville. He is a Democrat in political affiliation, and religiously, is a member of the Reformed church at Sumneytown, and is a member of the board of trustees, having served many years as elder, and previously served a number of years as deacon.

On November 23, 1860, he married Catharine, a daughter of Michael Miller, a farmer of Marlboro township, this county. This union has been fruited with four children: Jonas, married Mary Frederick; they have one child. He assists his father on the farm. Adam, who was educated at Ursinus college and Kutztown State Normal school, graduating from the latter in 1892, and, until recently, a professor in the Womelsdorf Orphans' Home, Berks county, is now completing his course at college. Morris, the youngest, was educated at Ursinus college and Stroudsburg Normal school; he is a teacher by profession.

ALBERT SHOEMAKER, a successful contractor and builder of Norriton township, is a son of Charles K. and Sarah C. (Childs) Shoemaker, and was born on the old homestead, in Whitpain township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, September 6, 1851. He was reared on the farm, received his education in the common schools and Loch's select school at Norristown, and then to fit himself for business, entered Pierce's Business college, of Philadelphia, from which he was graduated in 1870. Returning home he learned the trade of carpenter which he followed for seven years, working a part of that time in Philadelphia and for one year in the west. He turned from carpentering in 1879, to farming, which he followed in Norriton township up to 1889. In the last named year he resumed carpentering, and in connection with it, commenced contracting and building, in which he has been quite successful. He has erected several of the most important buildings in Norriton and adjacent townships, among which was a fine twelve roomed house on the Path farm, the remodeling of the William Rittenhouse mansion, and the erection of his own three story brick residence at Jeffersonville.

On November 4, 1875, Mr. Shoemaker married Ray R. DeHaven, a daughter of David DeHaven, of this county. To Mr. and Mrs. Shoemaker have been born four children: Irene D., Lida G., Charles Leslie, who died in infancy, and Uarda A.

In politics Mr. Shoemaker is a staunch Republican. He served as a supervisor of roads in 1893. He is a member of the Presbyterian church, in which he is an elder and trustee, and served as Sunday school superintendent. He has always been regarded as a good mechanic and a reliable citizen.

The Shoemaker families were founded in eastern Pennsylvania by Jacob Shoemaker, whose sons were: Mathias, Jonathan, Isaac and David.

Mathias Shoemaker was born in 1736, and died in 1816. In 1777 he removed to Whitpain township, where in 1777 and in 1796 he purchased the lands constituting the Shoemaker homestead. He had an only son, Thomas Shoemaker, who inherited the farm. Thomas Shoemaker married Jane Supplee, and their children were: Enoch, Job, David, Alan, Mathias, Hannah, Jesse, and Charles K, who came into possession of the home farm. Charles K. Shoemaker, father, was born June 4, 1819 and commenced life with that best capital that man can have, good health, strong arms and a determination to succeed. By hard toil, honest industry and good management, he secured means sufficient to purchase the home farm, on which he resided until his death which occurred January 11, 1892. In 1841 he married Sarah C.

Childs, a daughter of Peter and Sarah Childs, residents of Whitemarsh township. Mrs. Shoemaker was born December 2, 1818, and still survives. To Charles K. and Sarah C. Shoemaker were born ten children: Phoebe G., who married Charles C. McCann; Mathias, who enlisted as a soldier in the late Civil war, was promoted to second lieutenant, and died from exposure and starvation at Andersonville prison pen; George; Emma Jane, infant daughter; Albert, whose name heads this sketch; Jessie; Sallie C., wife of Harry C Hoover; Charles T., who died in 1876, and Anna C.

EDWARD WILLIAM FRANCE, a resident of West Conshohocken, and a director of the textile department of the Pennsylvania Museum and School of Industrial Art, of Philadelphia, is a son of John and Ellen (Ward) France, and was born at Lawrence, Massachusetts, August 6, 1859. His paternal grandfather, Matthew France, was a native and life-long resident of Lancashire, England, where his son, John France, was born. John France was well reared and educated, and soon became distinguished in mathematics. He came to the United States in 1854, bringing with him his mother and a niece, and locating at Syracuse, New York. He was a cotton spinner by trade, and soon removed to Lawrence, Massachusetts, where he married and followed cotton spinning for some time. He then became manager of a large cotton mill, which position he still holds. He is an enthusiastic Republican, served as alderman and as a justice of the peace of Lawrence, and was also a member of the board of health of that place. He is a member of the Episcopal church, and has been for many years a prominent Odd Fellow and Free Mason. Mr. France married Ellen Ward, who was a daughter of William Ward, and died March 2, 1862, aged thirty-three years, leaving one child, Edward William, the subject of this sketch. Mr. France married for his second wife Harriet Maria Goodwin, by whom he had three children: John W., Harriet, and Edwin, now deceased. His second wife dying, Mr. France married Mrs. Alice Marcroft, who had one daughter named Alice, and is now deceased.

Edward William France was reared at Lawrence, Massachusetts, where he received his education in the public schools of that place. His father being engaged in the manufacturing business, as before mentioned, he naturally entered the factory with the object of learning the business, devoting several years to the various branches. He finally took up the subject of textile designing, which he followed from 1876 to 1881. In the last named year he came to Conshohocken, where he accepted a position in the weaving department of George Bullock's mills, which he resigned in 1884, to become assistant director of the Philadelphia textile school, which was organized in the last named year. Three years later he went to Europe and spent five months in visiting the industrial countries of the continent. He visited forty large textile institutions and establishments, and saw all the most noted places of Continental Europe. Returning from his extended old world tour, he was soon made a director of the textile department of the before mentioned institution, comprising the schools of carding, spinning, weaving, finishing, and chemistry and dyeing. The institution has an enrollment of over six hundred pupils. Mr. France is recognized as an authority in his

special line of industry, where he has won prominence by merit. He is an active, diligent and energetic man. Like his father, he is a Republican and an Episcopalian. He has served as a councilman, and is now president of the school board of West Conshohocken. He is a member of Grecian Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons, of Lawrence, Massachusetts.

On August 2, 1888, Mr. France was united in marriage with Amanda Burhouse, a daughter of James Burhouse, of West Conshohocken. To their union have been born two children: Emma B., deceased; and John Edward, who was born May 24, 1892.

GEORGE R. KITE, teller and assistant cashier of the First National bank, of Norristown, is a son of Edmund A. and Elizabeth (Jackson) Kite, and was born at Norristown, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, March 3, 1852. The Kite family is of Scotch descent, and the first member that settled in America was a descendant of M. Paschall, an officer who came to America with Lafayette and served on his staff during the Revolutionary war. A descendant of this officer was Isaac Kite, the paternal grandfather of the subject of this sketch.

Isaac Kite was a life-long resident of Philadelphia, and a member of the Society of Friends. He had three children: Edmund A., Mary Ann, and Rachel H. Edmund A. Kite was born in Philadelphia, June 2, 1813. He was a tailor by trade, but removed in early life to Norristown and served as station agent for the Philadelphia, Germantown and Norristown railroad for forty years. He is a Democrat in politics, and was elected burgess and a member of the town council for two terms in each office. Mr. Kite married Elizabeth Jackson, and to their union were born seven sons and one daughter: William, Isaac (deceased), Charles (dead), Eliza J., Edmund A., George R. (subject), Harry (deceased), and John P., now a resident of Norristown. Mrs. Kite was a daughter of William Jackson, of Philadelphia, and died July 1, 1882, when in the sixty-second year of her age.

George R. Kite was reared in his native town, received his education in the Norristown public schools, and at sixteen years of age left school to learn the art of telegraphy in the office of the Western Union Telegraph company. He was a telegraph operator for several years, during which period of time he served for three years as clerk to the superintendent of canals, at Norristown. At the end of that time he became assistant ticket agent at the Mill street station of the Philadelphia and Reading railroad, which position he left to serve as a transcriber for one year in the Recorder's office. He then served for one year as a clerk and the telegraph operator in the office of George and James L. Bullock, woolen manufacturers of Conshohocken, and then became book-keeper for S. Fulton & Co., iron manufacturers, of Norristown, with whom he remained up to 1873. In that year he was elected discount clerk in the First National bank of Norristown, and in 1882 became teller, which position he still holds. In two years after becoming teller, he was made assistant cashier, and discharges the duties of both positions at the present time.

On October 16, 1877, Mr. Kite married Emma M. Moir, a daughter of James Moir, president of the Conshohocken Woolen company. To their union were born five children: Bessie M. (deceased), Mary E.,

James M., Karl K. and George E. Mrs. Kite died April 29, 1885, when in the thirty-fourth year of her age.

In political matters, George R. Kite has always been a Republican. He has served for five years as a member of the borough school board, being its present secretary. He is connected with various Norristown enterprises, being treasurer of the Fame Building and Loan association, secretary of the Citizens' Passenger Railway company, and was vice president of the Electric Light company of Norristown, of which he was one of the original members. He served for two years as president of the board of trade, and is secretary of Charity Lodge No. 190, Free and Accepted Masons.

DR. JOHN G. HILLEGASS. A profession whose mission it is to inquire into the nature of the structure and physiological functions of the human body, that they may be assisted in their natural duties to the end that human suffering may be alleviated, certainly deserves to rank as one of the noblest of callings; and one who, for almost half a century has stood in the front rank of the profession of medicine, is the gentleman whose name heads this sketch. He is a son of Peter and Maria (Gery) Hillegass, and was born October 26, 1828, in Upper Hanover township, near Pennsburg, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania. The Hillegass family is of German origin, and was among the early colonial families of the city of Philadelphia. During the yellow fever epidemic in that city in 1826, Frederick Hillegass, becoming alarmed, gathered his effects together and with a team started for the country. He came into what is now Upper Hanover township, this county, then a wooded wilderness, and took up a large tract of land and began the foundations of a home. In this pioneer home, John Hillegass, grandfather of the subject of this biographical sketch, was born. Of necessity, his avocation was agricultural pursuits, as it was only through the tilling of the soil that he was able to obtain the primary necessities of life. He also built a saw mill upon his farm and built the first frame house in this locality. Afterwards he built a hemp mill, and still later the first linseed oil mill that was built in the country. This mill has been rebuilt and is now operated by the subject of this sketch.

Peter Hillegass (father), was born near Pennsburg, on a part of the original homestead, where he lived most of his life. He was a man of limited education, so far as books go, but possessed a good judgment and a good practical knowledge of human nature. He took to stock dealing and droving, and became one of the most extensive and successful dealers in the county and accumulated a handsome fortune. In connection with his agricultural pursuits and the collateral one of stock dealing, he continued the manufacture of linseed oil, that was begun by his father. Several years prior to his death he retired from active business and devoted his time in looking after his investments and such other matters in connection with his estate that could not be overlooked. He was a member of the Reformed church, and a Democrat in political faith and practice. His children were as follows: John G., subject; Jacob, who died young; Matilda, wife of Dr. Mensch, of Pennsburg; and Maria, wife of Dr. Henry Bobb, a physician and druggist at East Greenville, this county.

Dr. Hillegass received his preliminary education at Washington Hall Boarding

school at the Trappe, this county, under the direction at different times of Prof. Hudson and Prof. Rambo. Having a strong penchant for the study of medicine, he entered that time-honored institution of learning, the University of Pennsylvania, from the portals of which he came forth in 1849, a full-fledged graduate from the medical department. He afterward still further broadened his professional training by practice in the hospitals of the city. Shortly after graduating he located at Pennsburg, and entered at once with earnestness and enthusiasm upon the practice of that profession for which he had made such ample preparation. He soon built up a good practice, and now, after almost a half century of arduous work, would gladly withdraw from its exacting duties, but finds it impossible to do so when importuned for medical advice by those whose ailments he has known and whose pains and aches he has allayed during the whole course of his professional career. After his father's death, he succeeded to the homestead farm, and still continues the linseed oil industry, established by his grandfather. In 1872, he, in connection with his brother-in-law, Dr. Mensch, founded a lumber, feed, flour and coal establishment, and built the large and handsome business block occupied by Dr. Mensch, in Pennsburg. Dr. Hillegass was one of the projectors and organizers of the Perkiomen National bank at East Greenville, this county. Politically he is a Democrat upon all National issues, and upon the monetary question believes that gold and silver should be so coined as to maintain them at a parity and make one dollar the equal of the other.

On October 26, 1852, he married Catharine A., a daughter of Jesse Ziegler, of Salford station, this county, and ten children bless their union: Dr. Eugene Z., who graduated from Jefferson Medical college in 1880, and is now practicing the profession at Montana, New Jersey; Ida, wife of Dr. John G. Hersh, a physician and the present burgess of East Greenville, this county; Ella M., Katie, wife of Dr. William H. Hunsburger, of Pennsburg; Jesse, a graduate of the Ontario Veterinary college, at Ontario, Canada, and now engaged in the practice of his profession, and largely engaged in the dealing of horses; Charles Q., a dentist of Pennsburg, and whose sketch follows; Howard C., a graduate of Franklin and Marshall college in the class of 1894, who is at present editor of the *Bloomsburg Daily*, at Bloomsburg, this State; Calvin M., is at home associated with his father in business; Mary L., wife of Jacob B. Esser, editor of the *Kutztown Courier and Patriot*, of Kutztown, Berks county; Dr. John P., a practicing physician at No. 1617 Dauphin street, Philadelphia. The latter is a general practitioner of medicine, and also makes a specialty of the eye and is assistant in the Medico-Chirurgical college.

GUSTAVUS EGOLF, the leading furniture dealer in Norristown, and at one time the most extensive dealer in antique goods in the United States, is a son of George and Catharine (Shuster) Egolf, and was born May 19, 1849, in the grand duchy of Baden, Germany. George Egolf (father), was a blacksmith by trade, and in 1850 came from Germany with his wife and four children and settled in Philadelphia. After pursuing his trade for three years on Poplar street, he removed to the corner of Broad and Cumberland streets, where he was profitably engaged in trucking and dairy busi-

ness on a small farm of seventeen acres, and continued up to 1884. In that year he retired from active business pursuits, and has since resided at the corner of Broad and Huntington streets, being in the eighty-fifth year of his age. He is a Republican, and a member of the Reformed church, and has been twice married. By his first wife, who died in Germany, he had no children. For his second wife, he wedded Catharine Shuster, who is a daughter of Charles Shuster, and was born in 1719. To this union were born six children: George, an extensive flour and feed dealer, at the corner of Broad and Cumberland streets, Philadelphia; Charles, a sergeant on the Philadelphia police force; Elizabeth Gross, a resident of Philadelphia; William and Louisa, who both died in infancy; Gustavus, subject.

Gustavus Egolf, although born in Germany, was reared in Philadelphia and received his meager educational training by very irregular attendance in the Oakdale school, Eleventh and Huntington streets, until fourteen years of age. After leaving school he drove teams for nine years, during which time, by very carefully husbanding his modest earnings, succeeded in saving sufficient margin to enable him to launch a contracting business in hauling on his own account, employing eight teams. He continued in this business for three years, at the expiration of which time he made a visit to his birth place, and after three months spent in Baden, he made a tour through Germany, France, Ireland and England. Returning from the Old World, Mr. Egolf established an extenstve antique, china and furniture business at the corner of Eleventh and Oxford streets, Philadelphia, where he remained up to July 9, 1879, when he came to Norristown and opened a similar business at the corner of Main and Walnut streets. After seven years he removed to the site of his present residence and branch store, at 363 East Main street.

In 1893 Mr. Egolf's business had grown to such dimensions as to demand increased facilities to accommodate his constantly growing trade. He accordingly purchased a site at 113 East Main street, and erected the handsome four-story brick structure, twenty-five by seventy feet, with iron front, known as the Egolf building. This building Mr. Egolf contemplates extending to a depth of one hundred and fifty feet, and when thus enlarged it will be one of the largest and handsomest business places in Norristown. He is the agent for the popular Walsbach patent gas burner. He is a staunch Republican in politics and always contributes his share to the success of the party at the polls. Mr. Egolf is a member of the Montgomery County Historical society and the Humane Fire company. On February 23, 1873, Mr. Egolf married Eliza Egolf, a daughter of Charles Egolf, of Baden, Germany, but latterly and at death resided in Philadelphia. To their union have been born ten children: George, deceased; Charles, Caroline, Clara, Gustavus, deceased; Edward, Edith, Eliza, Sadie and Howard.

HENRY F. SCATCHARD, one of the foremost manufacturers of southeastern Pennsylvania, is a son of Joseph B. and Betty (Heap) Scatchard, and was born in Yorkshire, England, January 13, 1842. His parents came to this country when he was an infant, and after residing for some time near Downingtown, in Chester county, removed in 1850 to East Coventry township, that county. There Joseph B. Scat-

chard bought a farm and woolen factory, which he conducted quite actively for a number of years.

Henry F. Scatchard was reared in Chester county, where he received his education in the public schools, and spent his boyhood years on the farm and in the factory. At seventeen years of age he accepted regular employment in the factory and remained with his father for three years. At the end of that time he entered a woolen factory at Germantown and worked at five dollars a week for several months. Leaving that place he went to Fairmount, in Philadelphia, and engaged in the woolen manufacturing business, which he followed there for fifteen years. He then came to Norristown and bought the Angoria woolen mills, which he has operated ever since. These mills are on the site of the old Blue mills, built in 1847, and run by Bodey and Jacobs as a cotton lap factory. It was burned and rebuilt, and operated successfully by Blout, Shaw & Co., and J. and J. Shaw & Co. In 1871 a large addition was made to the mills and improved machinery added, and since then various improvements have been made. The mills are in the north-eastern part of Norristown, and form three sides of a hollow square. Mr. Scatchard has equipped the mills thoroughly with every convenience and all needed machinery for the manufacture of first-class cotton and woolen goods. He employs from one hundred and forty to one hundred and eighty men, and the output of the Angoria mills find ready sale in all sections of the United States. Practical, experienced and progressive, Henry F. Scatchard has become prominent as one of the successful manufacturers of cotton and woolen goods in the south-eastern part of the State.

In politics Mr. Scatchard has always been a Republican. He is a member and a deacon of the First Baptist church, in whose affairs he takes a deep interest and an active part. He is also the superintendent of the East End Baptist mission Sunday school, and a manager of the George Nugent Home, at Germantown, this State, for aged ministers of the Baptist church. He is a member of Philomeathen Lodge No. 10, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, with which extensive organization he has been connected for several years.

On June 16, 1865, Mr. Scatchard was united in marriage with Lucy Bonsor, daughter of William Bonsor, of Germantown, this State. To their union have been born four children, three sons and one daughter: Laura B., wife of Robert Dorris, of Philadelphia; Barton H., now engaged in the manufacturing business with his father; Warren R., who married Bessie Richards, and is engaged in business with his father; and Henry F., now attending school.

ABNER McMICHAEL, the second son of William and Margaret (Dillin) McMichael, and now senior member of the manufacturing firm of McMichael & Wildman, of Norristown, was born May 7, 1846, in the city of Philadelphia. He spent his early life in that city, obtaining a fair education by his own efforts, and when ten years of age, became an errand boy. At the age of sixteen he began learning the trade of machinist with J. G. and G. L. Chapman of Philadelphia, with whom he remained until they failed in business. He then went to the Port Richmond Iron works, owned by I. P. Morris & Co., where he worked as a machinist for some time, and

later removed to Bristol, Bucks county, where he entered the employ of Thomas Hughes & Co., in their hosiery and underwear mill, where he remained in various capacities for a period of eight years. From Bristol, he removed to Philadelphia, thence to Norristown, and forming a partnership with Frank B. Wildman (see his sketch), under the firm name of McMichael & Wildman, embarked in the manufacture of knitting machinery for the production of all kinds of hosiery and underwear, at the corner of Oak and Corson streets. This enterprise they have ever since successfully conducted, and now own and operate one of the best equipped plants of the kind in eastern Pennsylvania, employing about sixty men.

In politics, Mr. McMichael is a Democrat and a Protestant in religion. He is a member of Amity Lodge No. 19, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, of Philadelphia, and of Integrity Lodge No. 139, Ancient Order of United Workmen, of Pennsylvania.

On September 26, 1879, Mr. McMichael was united in marriage with Anna Calvin, a daughter of William Calvin, of the city of Philadelphia. To Mr. and Mrs. McMichael have been born two children: Nellie and Elizabeth.

The family from which Mr. McMichael is descended is of ancient Irish lineage. His father, William McMichael, was born on the Emerald Isle, but when six years of age was brought to America by relatives, and grew to manhood at Marietta, Lancaster county, Pennsylvania. While yet a young man he learned the shoemaker trade and worked at that occupation during the greater part of his life. Some years prior to his death he removed to Gloucester, New Jersey, and died there in 1855, at the age of thirty-three years. He was a member of the Morning Star Lodge, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, of Philadelphia, and a Protestant in religion. In 1842 he married Margaret Dillin, a daughter of Joseph Dillin, of Philadelphia, Pa., and to them were born five children, three sons and two daughters: Joseph (now dead); Abner, the subject of this sketch; Katie, who married Thomas Hall, of Philadelphia; William and Josephine, now the widow of William Kensil, of Philadelphia. Mrs. Margaret McMichael survived her husband for more than a quarter of a century, dying in 1891, at the age of sixty-eight years.

DANIEL LOUGHIN, the proprietor of the Port Kennedy hotel, is a son of John and Isabella (Lamon) Loughin, and was born in County Antrim, Ireland, February 8, 1819. His paternal father, Henry Loughin, was a native and life-long resident of County Antrim, in which he followed farming and was engaged in a fishery. He was a man of considerable property, and wielded an influence in his immediate neighborhood. He married, and his son, John Loughin, was born in 1772, and resided in his native county until his death, which occurred in 1837, at sixty-five years of age. John Loughin was a stone mason by trade, and as a contractor erected many dwellings and some buildings of considerable importance. He was a Protestant and a Free Mason, and married Isabella Lamon, a resident of his native country. Mr. and Mrs. Loughin reared a family of four children: John, Dennis, Daniel, sons; and Katie, daughter.

Daniel Loughin was reared in County Antrim, and received a very ordinary education in the primary schools of Ireland. Leaving school he was employed for a

short time in various kinds of business, and then, at the early age of eighteen, sought in Pennsylvania to find a wider field for effort than was afforded him in Ireland. Landing at Philadelphia, he resided successively at Valley Forge and Norristown, and in 1841, crossed the mountains to Pittsburg, where he was engaged for three years in the hotel business. At the end of that time, in 1844, he removed to Westmoreland county, where he spent three years in the mercantile business, which he quit there to come to Port Kennedy. Here he built and opened a store which he sold to James Meenely, in 1852, to engage in the lime business. Ten years later he disposed of his quarries and bought the Port Kennedy hotel, which he has conducted up to the present time.

On March 16, 1841, Mr. Loughin married Jane McKay, a daughter of John McKay, of County Antrim, Ireland. To their union have been born seven children: Isabella, John, Alexander, Daniel Jr., Ann Jane, Henry D., Katie and one child that died in infancy. Mrs. Loughin died August 1, 1891, aged seventy-six years, and her remains were interred in Port Kennedy cemetery.

Daniel Loughin has always been a Democrat in politics since coming to this country. He is a member of Port Kennedy Presbyterian church, and ranks among the older business men of Port Kennedy.

CHRISTIAN F. TEGTMEIER, M. D., a physician in active practice at Conshohocken, is the eldest son of Dr. August and Caroline (Cook) Tegtmeier, and was born in the city of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, March 24, 1862. Dr. August Tegtmeier was born and reared in Germany, of German parentage, and graduated from the famous Aldorf Veterinary college, of his native country, and in 1850 came to Philadelphia, where he still resides at No. 729 South Sixteenth street. He is a Homœopathic veterinary surgeon, and during the late Civil war was employed actively in the service of the Government. Since the war he has practiced continuously at his present place of residence. He is a Republican and a Lutheran, and in 1860 wedded Caroline Cook, a daughter of Christian Cook, of Bridgeton, N. J.

Dr. Christian F. Tegtmeier, received his education at the Philadelphia Central High school, and then entered Hahnnemann Medical college, from which noted Homœopathic institution he was graduated in the class of 1885. After graduation he served for one year as a member of the dispensary staff of the college, and then located at 729 South Sixteenth street, Philadelphia, where he remained but six months. At the end of that time, in November, 1886, he came to Conshohocken, where he has practiced continuously and successfully up to the present time. He is a member of the Homœpathic Medical Society, the Philadelphia County Medical Society, the Philadelphia Organon and Materia-Medica Society and the Homœopathic Council. In addition to his practice, he is a contributor to the numerous medical journals of the United States. He is a Republican politically, and in religious faith and church membership, a Presbyterian.

On July 1, 1885, Dr. Tegtmeier was united in marriage with Eleanor G. McGirr, a daughter of John McGirr, of Philadelphia. Their union has been blessed with four children: Ralph, Christine, William C. and August.

HENRY LITZENBERG, a resident of Ardmore, is a son of Horatio Gates and Hannah (Johnson) Litzenberg, and was born at Ardmore, Lower Merion township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, February 15, 1845. The Litzenbergs are of Welsh origin, and members of the family have been prominently identified with the business interests of Ardmore for the last three generations. John Litzenberg, who was born in 1790, became a resident of Ardmore, when it was known as Athensville, and purchased the famous "Red Lion" hotel from John Taylor. This hotel has a history that stretches three decades back of the initial year of the fast waning nineteenth century, and always ranked as a first-class hostelry with accommodating and courteous bonifaces. Mr. Litzenberg proved to be no exception to the rule in his management of the house, which he conducted up to his death, which occurred August 7, 1854. He was a Jacksonian Democrat, and married Christina Stanley, by whom he had three children: Horatio Gates, Elizabeth and Martha. Horatio Gates Litzenberg was born October 26, 1814, at Ardmore, where he died March 28, 1880. Receiving a fair education, he was engaged in the general mercantile business successively at Libertyville, Humphreyville (now Bryn Mawr), and Ardmore. About 1854 he purchased the Red Lion hotel from his father, and in 1868 quit merchandising and continued in the lumber, coal and feed business, which he conducted in connection with the hotel until his death. A Democrat in political principle, and a Baptist in religious views, he passed through life without seeking for prominence in civil or church affairs. He married Hannah Johnson, a daughter of Aaron Johnson, who died March 13, 1845, aged twenty-seven years. They had a family of three children, two sons and one daughter: Mary, dead; Walter S., deceased; and Henry, the subject of this sketch.

Henry Litzenberg, at four weeks of age, lost his mother, and was sent to live with his maternal grandfather, Aaron Johnson, of Delaware county, with whom he remained for fourteen years. He attended the Cooperstown public schools, S. Gayley's select school at Media, and the Upland Normal High school at Chester, Pa., and then returned to Ardmore, where he assisted his father in his farming and in his business affairs up to the year 1869. He then removed to Chester county, but only remained there on a farm for six years, and shortly afterwards came back to Ardmore, where he managed his father's farm until the death of the latter, where he has resided up to the present time.

On January 9, 1867, Mr. Litzenberg wedded Kate E. Butler, a daughter of George Butler, a resident of Torrsdale, Pa., and granddaughter of the late Captain Enoch, of Torrsdale, Pa. To their union have been born five children: Mary E., Sarah B.; George Yocum, deceased; Leroy and Louise G., deceased.

JOSEPH LEES, a well known and highly esteemed business man of Bridgeport, was born in Yorkshire, England, 1830. He was a son of James and Betty (Savill) Lees, both of whom died about eight years previous to the death of their son. When Joseph Lees was twelve years of age his parents came to this country. Upon reaching manhood he was associated in the woolen business with his father and another partner.

In the year 1864 the firm of James Lees & Sons was established, of which the father of Joseph and John Lees was the senior partner. The business was established at Bridgeport, Pa., at that time, and expanded until it became one of the largest plants of its kind in the country. The rapid growth of the great plant was due to the energy and enterprise of Joseph Lees. For some years previous to his death, the father, owing to advancing years, was not active in the business. This threw the full responsibility of the management of the plant upon his son Joseph, who, through the successful direction of the firm's affairs, demonstrated his great business qualities. Upon his death it was found necessary, in order that the plant might be properly managed, to transfer the business of James Lees & Sons to a corporation known as James Lees & Sons Company. The family of Joseph Lees still control this corporation.

Joseph Lees was very active in the political affairs of Montgomery county. He was an ardent Republican, and ever sought the highest and best interests of his party. For many years he was chairman of the county committee, and it was through his political sagacity that the county was changed from a Democratic to a Republican district. He had been offered by his party the nomination for Congress, but declined this and all other solicitations to enter official political life.

Mr. Lees was a vestryman of the Episcopal church of Bridgeport for several years previous to his death, and sought in every way the advancement of the interests of his church.

Early in life Mr. Lees was married to Maria S. Hinkle, of Roxborough, Philadelphia. There were born to this union seven children, two of whom died in infancy. At his death, Mr. Lees left, besides his widow, George S., a manufacturer of Germantown, Pa.; Sue B., Mary A., wife of Charles F. Williams, director of the firm of James Lees & Sons Co.; Lizzie S., and Alice T., who married Abram T. Eastwick, also a director of the firm of James Lees & Sons Company. Mr. Lees died March 27, 1894, and was laid to rest in Montgomery cemetery at Norristown.

THOMAS M. SAURMAN, the proprietor and operator of the "Acme" copying and enlarging photographic house at Norristown, is a son of Thomas and Catharine (Spang) Saurman, and was born at Norristown, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, August 9, 1846. The name of Saurman would indicate its German origin, and Thomas M. Saurman's paternal grandfather, whose name was John Martin Saurman, resided near Sixth and Commerce streets, Philadelphia. He owned a farm, married and reared a family. His son, Thomas Saurman, was born October 19, 1804, and received an ordinary education in the schools of Philadelphia. Thomas Saurman, in 1839, came to Norristown, where he built the Eagle Iron works, which he operated in the manufacture of mill machinery until his death, May 11, 1860. He was an industrious energetic man, and served for several years as a councilman. He was a Whig in political opinion, and married Catharine Spang, a daughter of Jacob Spang, and a member of the old Spang family of eastern Pennsylvania. She was born May 14, 1814, and passed away May 28, 1881. To their union were born four children: Mary V., widow of Samuel D. Delp; Thomas M., subject; James S., a photographer at St.

Joseph, Missouri, and Othniel S., who died January 26, 1889, when in the thirty-sixth year of his age.

Thomas M. Saurman was reared at Norristown, and received his education in the borough public schools and Treemount seminary, when under the charge of Prof. John W. Loch. At sixteen years of age he entered the employ of the Norris Iron company, and worked in their mills at Norristown for twenty months. He then took a course in book-keeping at Bryant and Stratton's Business College, of Philadelphia, and after graduation in 1865, purchased the branch photograph gallery of E. Hipple, at Main and Green streets, that city, which he operated until 1881. In that year he sold out to his brother, Othniel S., and during January of the succeeding year, purchased a "copying" house at Pottstown, which he conducted for one year. He then, on March 1, 1883, removed his business to the corner of Cherry and Main streets, Norristown, and two and a half years later, on August 29, 1885, opened his present Acme Copying and Enlarging House at No. 508 Green street.

On October 30, 1867, Mr. Saurman married Eliza Davis, a daughter of Evan and Rebecca Davis, of Norristown. To Mr. and Mrs. Saurman have been born five sons and six daughters: Catharine, died at nine weeks of age; Mary V., Thomas E., died at ten years of age; Edith R., Jonathan D., born August 8, 1874, died July 12, 1894; Louis R., James S., Herbert H. and Ralph L., twins, the former dying at one year and the latter at sixteen months of age; Norma, C. and Mabel L.

Thomas M. Saurman is a Republican in political matters. He is a member of Montgomery Fire and Hose company. Mr. Saurman, by natural aptitude and years of experience, is well qualified for his special line of work. The Acme Copying and Enlarging House is a three-story brick structure, forty by sixty feet in dimensions and thoroughly equipped for the successful prosecution of every department of the business including the artist studios. Mr. Saurman has his own dynamo and engine, and employs as high as twenty men. His patronage has steadily increased year by year, and his work is now to be found over a wide area of territory in this and adjoining States.

GEORGE W. POLEY, one of the prosperous citizens of Norristown, is a native of Montgomery county, born near Perkiomenville, April 23, 1848. His parents were Jeremiah and Mary Ann (Bigony) Poley, both born and reared in the country. The family is of German and French descent, and for many years have resided in the Keystone State. The paternal grandfather, George Poley, was a resident of Chester county during the early part of his life, but afterward removed to Perkiomenville, this county, where he was engaged in conducting a woolen mill for many years, located on Perkiomen creek, and said to be the first woolen mill on that stream outside of Norristown. He had a large trade and became a man of local prominence. He was a Democrat politically, and a man of unassuming manners—kind, generous and very trustworthy. His son, Jeremiah Poley (father), was principally reared at Perkiomenville, where he spent the early part of his life. He was a man of common school education, supplemented by a term at the Trappe seminary. He assisted his father in the woolen mill, spinning, dyeing and weaving woolen cloth for a number of years, and

later removed to Norristown and engaged in mercantile pursuits, which he followed until his retirement in 1864. He was a Republican in politics and a Lutheran in religion. He married Mary Ann Bigony in 1843, and by that union had a family of four children: Clara, wife of J. O. Knipe; Irvin, who served as a soldier in the Civil war and died of wounds received in the battle of Spottsylvania; George W., the subject of this sketch; and Warren H., now a resident of Germantown, Philadelphia. Mrs. Poley died in March, 1893, at the age of seventy-three years.

George W. Poley remained in Marlborough township until the age of ten, when he came with his parents to Norristown. He attended the public schools until sixteen years of age, and then began learning the trade of machinist in the Norristown Iron works. He remained with the firm for a period of five years, and then for a short time was in the employ of Grice and Long, engine builders, Philadelphia. Subsequently he entered the employ of the Phœnixville Iron company at Phœnixville, this State, with which he remained in various capacities for twenty-three years. At the end of that time he removed to Philadelphia, where he engaged in the engineering and contracting iron business.

Politically Mr. Poley is a staunch Republican, though he has never taken a very active interest in politics. He is a member of the Central Presbyterian church of Norristown, which he has served as a trustee since 1876. He is also a member of Curtis Lodge No. 231, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, having passed through all the chairs, and is likewise connected with the Encampment, and with Linwood Lodge No. 154, Ancient Order of United Workmen, in which he has also held every official position.

In 1871 Mr. Poley was married to Annie M. Titlow, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Reuben Titlow, of Norristown, Pa., and they have had three children: Irene L., died in childhood; G. Milton and Catharine C., both living at home with their parents.

FRANK B. WILDMAN, junior member of the firm of McMichael & Wildman, manufacturers of circular rib knitting machinery, is the eldest son of Barclay and Maggie (Black) Wildman, and was born February 5, 1856, at Langhorn, Bucks county, this State. His paternal grandfather, Jonathan Wildman, was born near the close of the last century in that county, and was a farmer by occupation. He passed all his life in his native county, and died about 1860, at the age of sixty-five years. Politically he was a Whig and Republican. He was the father of four children, two sons and two daughters. One of his sons was Barclay Wildman (father), who was born and reared in Bucks county, where he secured a good common school education, and afterward learned the trade of carpenter. He worked at his trade to some extent and also engaged in agricultural pursuits, in which he is still employed. He is a Republican in politics, and a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. In 1854 he married Maggie Black, a daughter of John and Rachel Black, of Bucks county, and to them were born eight children: Frank B., subject of this sketch; Elmer, George, Gillam and John, deceased; William, Hannah, wife of Frank Flower; and Lizzie, who married William Priestly. Barclay and Mrs. Maggie Wildman are still living.

Frank B. Wildman spent the first fourteen years of his life on his father's farm, obtain-

ing an ordinary education in the public schools of his neighborhood. He then went to Northampton township and worked on a farm for two years, after which he went to Langhorn and began learning the trade of blacksmithing with his uncle, John Black. Having completed his apprenticeship, he worked at the trade for eleven years in the shop where he had learned it, and then became a machinist, working at Langhorn one year longer, and then removing to Bristol, where he worked as machinist in the hosiery mill of Thomas Houghes & Co.

In 1887 he removed to Norristown, and entered the employ of the Keystone Hosiery company, where he had charge of the machinery for three years. At the end of that time he formed a partnership with Abner McMichael, (see his sketch), under the firm name of McMichael & Wildman, and in a small way began the manufacture of knitting machinery for hosiery mills. Their business rapidly increased, and the firm now employs about sixty men the year round. They make circular rib knitting machinery for the manufacture of all kinds of hosiery and underwear, and in addition do mill repairing of every description. Their establishment is located at the corner of Oak and Astor streets, Norristown, and their plant is regarded as one of the best equipped institutions of the kind in this part of the State.

In his political affiliations Mr. Wildman is an uncompromising Republican, believing in the policy of protection to American industry, and supporting his party on all general questions. He is a member of Oriental Lodge No. 163, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, of Langhorn; of the Improved Order of Red Men, and of the Knights of the Mystic Chain, of Bristol.

On February 20, 1884, Mr. Wildman was married to Mattie Brown, a daughter of Edward L. and Sarah A. (Saxton) Brown. To them have been born two children: Florence, who died May 22, 1888, aged three and one-half years; and Marion, now in her ninth year.

WILLIAM LITTLE, a leading and prominent business man at Spring Mills, is a son of James and Martha (Semple) Little, and was born at Spring Mills, Whitemarsh township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, December 8, 1856. His father was reared and educated among the highlands of Scotland, where nature abounds in delightful scenery, that has been so beautifully portrayed in poetry and song. Arriving at the age of manhood, James Little became a drover and farmer by occupation. Leaving his family in his native country, he emigrated to America, and soon after located at Roxborough, and about one year thereafter he brought his family to his new place of residence. There he became manager of a large farm, and later he was employed by the Schuylkill Navigation company as lock-keeper on the canal. He remained in the employ of this company for thirty-three years, living the greater part of the time at Spring Mills, Whitemarsh township. The last four years of his life was passed in retirement, and he died August 20, 1877, at the age of seventy-five years. He was a staunch Republican, and for twenty-three years was a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellow. He married Martha Semple, who died December 8, 1893, at the advanced age of seventy-nine years. Their family consisted of five sons and two daughters: Robert, a resident of New York; John, a resident of Conshohocken; William, James, deceased; Martin,

a resident of Whitemarsh township; Susan, widow of William Sheridan, of New York; and Mary, who married Albert H. Clauser, a blacksmith, in Philadelphia.

William Little received his education in the public schools of Conshohocken, and at the age of fifteen years he found employment in a brick yard. Subsequently he was employed on the Schuylkill canal between Schuylkill Haven and New York City, and afterwards he became interested in the crushed slag and stone business at Spring Mills, in which he employs one hundred and twenty-five men. In 1891 he began the coal, flour and feed business, and has succeeded in establishing an extensive wholesale and retail trade. On September 12, 1889, Mr. Little was united in marriage with Clara R. Hitner, daughter of D. O. and Catharine Hitner, of Spring Mill. Mr. and Mrs. Little have two children: William, deceased; and Ludwig Filbert.

Mr. Little is an active Republican, but has never sought for or held office. He has served as delegate to the Republican county convention, and takes due interest in all local political affairs.

MR. JAWOOD LUKENS, a prominent manufacturer and business man of Conshohocken, is a son of Lewis A. an Mary Thomas (Wood) Lukens, and was born March 8, 1843, in Lebanon county, Pennsylvania. He received his education in private schools and Treemount seminary, Norristown, and graduated from the Polytechnic College of Pennsylvania, at Philadelphia, in 1864, as civil engineer, having served in the Pennsylvania militia in the emergency calls of 1862 and 1863—first in the 11th regiment and second in the Grey Reserve regiment, of Philadelphia. After his graduation he was for a time engaged with an engineer corps, engaged in surveying a route for the Pan Handle railroad in West Virginia and Ohio, and later was engaged in surveying in the oil fields of Pennsylvania. In 1867 he took a position in the employ of Alan Wood & Co., remaining with this company in that capacity until 1873, when he was taken into the firm. He remained a member of that firm until 1881. Upon the latter date he withdrew from the business and built, in 1882, the Long Mead Iron works, for the manufacture of muck bar iron, and operated these works until 1894, giving employment to ninety men. In 1894 a stock company was formed with Jawood Lukens president and treasurer and A. L. Murphy, secretary, and the works were enlarged by the addition of a finishing mill for the manufacture of Skelp iron. This enterprise gave employment to one hundred and twenty hands. In 1883 he was one of the prime movers in building and equipping the Conshohocken Tube works and has been president of the company ever since. These works give employment to a force of one hundred and twenty-five hands. He is president of the Conshohocken Gas and Water company, and vice president of the Tradesmen's National bank of Conshohocken.

In 1868 Mr. Lukens married Susan, a daughter of Dr. Hiram Corson, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this volume. Jawood Lukens is a man of many excellent and useful traits of character. Energetic, prompt and pains-taking in the discharge of every duty, he leaves nothing to chance or good fortune, and believes that good luck is but the result of good management. Perseverance and patience are among his most striking characteristics, and he makes himself

thoroughly acquainted with the minutest details of the business he may have in hand. His power of analysis and combination, and his fine executive ability enable him to secure the skillful and successful execution of his work in any business or financial enterprise, in which he may be engaged. As a citizen, Mr. Lukens is highly esteemed by all who have business or social intercourse with him, while his integrity and honor are unquestioned. He is a member of the American Institute of Mining Engineers; the Engineers' Club of Philadelphia; the Franklin Institute, and the Union League and other clubs.

JACOB H. GABLE, a retired citizen of Pottstown, Pennsylvania, is a son of Jacob and Catharine (High) Gable, and was born September 29, 1820, in Colebrookdale township, Berks county, Pa. He received his scholastic training by attendance at various private schools at Boyertown, that county. After leaving school he worked on a farm a few years, and during the same time had learned the milling trade, which he pursued for six years at Colebrookdale, Berks county, Pa. In 1856 he came to Pottstown, this county, and in partnership with his brother, Henry, operating under the trading name of H. & J. Gable, purchased the Pottstown Roller mills, which they operated up to 1867, when the name was changed to Gable, Bertolette & Co., who continued to conduct the business up to 1883. In 1878, Mr. Gable, in the firm of Gable, Jones & Gable, became engaged in ore mining at Boyertown, Berks county, and at the same time leased a furnace at Bechtelsville, that county, which they operated up to 1890, Mr. Jones, of the firm, having died in 1880. Partially due to the flooding of the mines of the Warwick Iron company, they blew out the furnace, since which time, Mr. Gable and his brother Henry, who were associates in business, have retired from active pursuits, and are devoting their time to looking after their varied and valuable investments. With his brother Henry, he is extensively interested in real estate in Pottstown. They own a handsome farm of two hundred and forty acres at Pottstown, upon which is held the annual fairs of the Tri-County Agricultural society, comprising adjacent portions of Chester and Berks counties and the whole of Montgomery county. Here is found one of the best one-mile race courses in the state. Mr. Gable is a strong advocate of the principles of protection as held by the Republican party, but never sought political preferment. Mr. Gable resides with his brother Henry at Pottstown.

Henry H. Gable, the third child and eldest son of Jacob and Catharine (High) Gable, was born March 5, 1808, in Colebrookdale township, Berks county, Pa. He received his education in the pay schools of his native township, and after leaving school, worked on a farm and finally operated the homestead farm and also operated the Colebrookdale grist mill, now called Boyertown Roller mills. Mr. Henry H. Gable, of this notice, owns individually, three valuable farms in York and James counties, Virginia. He is a member of the Mennonite church. On the 25th of September, 1835, Mr. Gable married Fredericka Kurtz, a daughter of Mathias Kurtz, which union has been blessed with six children: Angelina Gilbert, Emma, Sarah, wife of Charles K. Himmelwright, who is manager of his father-in-law's Virginia farms; Amanda (dead), El-

mira Baldwin and Barbara Fitzsimmons.

Mr. Gable comes from a sturdy German ancestry, the emigrant ancestor was the great-grandfather of the subject of this sketch, who sailed for this country from Alsace, Germany, about 1736, with a wife and family. Tradition reveals little authentic of the fate of this American progenitor, but it is thought that he either died on the passage or shortly after landing at Philadelphia. The family, however, located in west Jersey for a time and thence came to Hereford township, Berks county, Pa, where the widow, with a family of two small children, had found a situation as housekeeper with a Mr. Latshaw, whom she afterwards married, and by whom she had six children. Henry Gable, grandfather, at two years of age, came with his parents to this country and remained with his mother and contributed, as he grew older, what he could to the support of the family. While a boy he learned the carpenter trade which he followed for several years. He afterwards purchased a farm containing six hundred acres, now constituted in four farms in Colebrookdale township, that county, upon which he operated a grist mill and saw mill, and became possessed of considerable means for that day. He was a Whig and a member of the Mennonite church. He married and had six children, all of whom are deceased. Their names were as follows: Jacob (father), John, Hannah Schantz, Mrs. Bechtel and Mrs. Brower. Grandfather Gable died in 1828, at ninety-three years of age. The father, Jacob Gable, was born in Colebrookdale township, Berks county, Pa. He owned and operated the homestead farm and was a member of the Mennonite church and a Whig in political affiliations. He had eleven children as follows: Elizabeth Gable, Magdalina Ehst, Henry, John, Susan Landis, Catharine (deceased), Mary Gable, Hannah Hauck, Jacob (our subject), Barbara and Leah, the last two of whom were twins, but Leah died when quite young and Barbara lived to be 69 years old. His father died September 29, 1823, at fifty years of age. The mother of our subject died May 24, 1886, at the very remarkable age of one hundred and one years, five months and five days.

SAMUEL R. FISHER, a successful and well known photographer of Norristown, is a son of Jacob and Ann (Ritter) Fisher. He was born at Bull's Corner, Chester county, Pennsylvania, February 9, 1834. After a short preparation in the public schools, he entered a select school in Norristown, conducted by the Rev. Samuel Aaron. When he reached his majority, he left school and turned his attention to photography, which art he studied under the direction of Thomas Taylor, of West Chester, Pennsylvania. In 1863 he removed to Norristown, where he opened up a photograph gallery, which he has conducted for more than fifteen years. He has made a specialty of landscape photography and in this line of photographic art has reached a very creditable degree of proficiency.

Having been inspired with a desire to travel, and become acquainted with the countries and civilizations of the old world, in company with A. W. Geiger, G. W. March and Isaac Landis, of Norristown, he made an extended tour through Europe and part of the continents of Asia and Africa. The central point of the pilgrimage was the land of Palestine and the Upper Nile country, returning by way of Germany, Italy and France. The period of travel extended over the whole of one summer, and during

the journey Mr. Fisher, with the aid of his camera, made valuable views of the ancient and historic points of interest in the cities and countries which he visited. These views are to be utilized in a series of descriptive lectures now in preparation by Mr. Fisher, and relating to the ruins, architecture, customs, manners, archæology and general characteristics of eastern civilization. The most prominent title in this series of lectures will be the "Holy Land as it is To-day."

Aside from literary and illustrative work Mr. Fisher takes a prominent part in church affairs. He is a member of the Trinity Lutheran church of Norristown, in which he has been an elder for eight years. He has been connected in an official capacity with the above named denomination for a period of fifteen years and is at present assistant librarian of the Sunday school and financial secretary of the Lutheran Union. In his fraternal relations he is a member of the Brotherhood of the Union; Knights of the Mystic Chain, No. 44; Knights of Pythias; and the Knights of Malta. Politically, he is a Democrat.

During the closing years of the late Civil war, Mr. Fisher served in the Emergency corps as a member of Company F., 9th regiment, Pennsylvania militia, stationed at Hagerstown, Maryland.

On March 16, 1866, the subject of this sketch was united in marriage to Sarah A. Neiman, a daughter of John Neiman, a farmer residing near Norristown. Mrs. Fisher died in April, 1890, at the age of sixty-one years.

The Fisher family is of German extraction, the grandfather of our subject having emigrated from Germany and located in Philadelphia about the year 1800. He was engaged in the manufacture of brick, in which business he continued until the time of his death. He was a member of the Lutheran church and married Margaret Wellinger, by whom he had seven children: Benjamin, Jacob, Margaret, intermarried with Lawrence Ramey, Hannah, Mary, Catharine and Elizabeth, intermarried with James Cooper. The elder Mrs. Fisher died at the age of fifty-four years, and her husband was afterwards united in marriage with Mary Casho. To this second union were born three children: Susan, wife of Henry Clymer; Jane, and Priscilla, inter-married with Lindsay Coats.

Jacob Fisher (father) was born in the Quaker city on May 1, 1807, and when he arrived at the period of manhood, removed to the southern part of Lancaster county. Here he was apprenticed with the view of learning the blacksmith trade in connection with which he learned the business of manufacturing edged tools. Some years subsequent he came to Norristown, where he resided until the time of his death on January 28, 1877. His marriage to Ann Ritter, a daughter of Samuel Ritter, resulted in a family of three children: Samuel, Hannah, deceased; and Susan. Mrs. Fisher died at the advanced age of eighty-five years. In his political proclivities, Jacob Fisher was a Democrat, and fraternally he was a member of the Iudependent Order of Odd Fellows at Norristown.

DR. RICHARD V. MATTISON, president of the large chemical manufacturing concern, the Keasbey and Mattison Company, of Ambler, is a son of Joseph J. and Mahala (Van Selous) Mattison, and was born in Solebury township, Bucks county, Pennsylvania, November 17, 1852. Joseph

J. Mattison was of feudal Scotch descent, and followed farming as an occupation. He was a Friend and a Republican, and married Mahala Van Selous, by whom he he had two children: Asher G. and Richard V. Mr. Mattison was active and industrious, and lived to be eighty-one years of age, dying April 9, 1893.

Richard V. Mattison was reared in his native township, where he attended the public schools until he was seventeen years of age, and then entered the drug business with John Wyeth and Brother, of Philadelphia. While employed by that firm he attended the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy, from which he was graduated in 1873, and in that year founded the firm Keasbey and Mattison, for the manufacture of chemical specialties. They commenced business on a small scale at the corner of Juniper and Arch streets, and continued there for a year, during which time they had but one employee. The next year they removed to Filbert above Twelfth street, where they remained for two years, and then found their enlarged plant and increased force of employees not sufficient to meet the demands for their products. To remedy this they again removed, this time to Front street, where more suitable quarters and additional facilities were found. With each year their trade increased, and in 1879 they established a branch establishment at Ambler. Four years later they removed their entire works to Ambler, retaining their main office in Philadelphia, which they placed at Fifth and Market streets, where it remained until 1886. In that year the main office was transferred to Ambler and their entire business in all of its branches has been conducted there ever since. The company was incorporated November 29, 1892, under the style and title of Keasbey and Mattison company. Pure water was one inducement that caused the company to locate at Ambler. The company has its large plant at the junction of Wissahickon avenue and Maple street, which is operated by several steam boilers of 1500 horse power capacity, and affords regular employment for a force of two hundred and fifty hands. The products of the works, including carbonate of Magnesia and many other specialities of different manufacture, are of such purity that they are in demand in all the leading cities of the country. The company have erected a splendid business block on Butler avenue, and have made Ambler what it is to-day, a place of some size and business prosperity. Dr. Mattison is president of the company, and under his skillful and judicious management the business has grown from a very humble and limited beginning to its present large proportions and remarkable prosperity. Under his management also, the Ambler Spring Water company has erected water-works and the Electrlc Light company an electric light, heat and moter plant for the use of the works and the benefit of the borough. He is president of the Ambler Spring Water, Ambler Electric Light, and the Real Estate Improvement, National Lathe and Tool, and other companies, and in addition to supervising these industrial enterprises in connection with the management of his great chemical works, he has been president and one of the directors of the Philadelphia Drug Exchange, director of the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy, and also president of its Alumni association. In order to fully qualify himself in his line of business, Dr. Mattison entered the medical department of the University of Philadelphia, and was graduated from it

in 1879, with the degree of M. D. Active, energetic, and progressive in business, he has always taken an interest in the local affairs of his borough, as well as in his large manufacturing industry. He is a thorough American and an active Republican, but has always refused to accept any office. Dr. Mattison has won success in business life by his energy, prudence, and good judgment, and has an enviable standing in the community in which he lives. He is a member of Apollo Lodge No. 386, (Philadelphia) Free and Accepted Masons, the Manufacturers' Club, and kindred organizations of Philadelphia.

On November 4, 1873, Dr. Mattison wedded Esther Dafter, daughter of James Dafter, of Cranberry, N. J. Their union has been blessed with three children: Richard V. jr., Royal, and Esther V., the latter having died of typhoid fever at the early age of four years.

MAHLON PRESTON, M. D., the leading homœopathic physician of Norristown and Montgomery county, is a son of Isaac C. and Mary (Price) Preston, and was born at Caln, Chester county, Pennsylvania, January 22, 1839. His paternal grandfather, Mahlon Preston, was a native of London, Grove township, Chester county, where he followed farming for an occupation. He was a Friend or Quaker, and supported the Whig party in all of its principal measures except its course on the slavery question. He was a pronounced and active anti-slavery man, and did much as an agent of the Underground Railroad to assist fugitive slaves in their northward journey across Chester county. He wedded Amy Coates, who passed away in 1853, at the age of sixty-eight years, three months and twenty-nine days. Their children were as follows: Isaac C, Zillah, William, Hannah, Barclay, Coates, Israel, Beulah, Seymour.

Isaac C. Preston, the father of Dr. Preston, was born October 15, 1807, in West Grove, (the west end of London Grove) and received a good common English education, after which he engaged in the general mercantile business at Caln, in his native county, where he handled large quantities of grain which he shipped on his own cars by railroad to Philadelphia. He was one of the leading business men of Chester county. He was a Henry Clay Whig, and a member of the Society of Friends, and served as postmaster at Caln for several years before his death, which occurred November 28, 1850. He married Mary Price on February 9, 1837, and to their union were born three children, two sons and one daughter: Elizabeth, who died in infancy; Dr. Mahlon, whose name appears at the head of this sketch; and Dr. Frederick, a practicing physician of Chester, Pennsylvania. Mrs. Preston is a daughter of Issachar Price, and resides at Bloomington, Illinois, being now in the seventy-eighth year of her age.

Dr. Mahlon Preston received his education at the boarding school of the celebrated Jonathan Gauze, near West Chester, Chester county. Leaving school he commenced the study of medicine, and after a preparatory course of reading, entered the Homœopathic Medical college, of Philadelphia, from which he was graduated in the class of 1861. In the same year that he was graduated he came to Norristown, where he has continued ever since in the practice of his profession. He has a large and lucrative practice, ranks with the lead-

S. Powell Childs

ing homœopathic physicians of the State, and is an able writer on medical subjects, being a frequent contributor to various progressive medical journals. He is a member of the Delaware, Chester and Montgomery County Medical Council, and the American Institute of Homœopathy.

On October 11, 1867, Dr. Preston married Mary Krause, a daughter of Hon. David Krause, then president-judge of the judicial district composed of the counties of Montgomery and Bucks. Dr. and Mrs. Preston have three children: Frederick H., Katherine and Emily.

The name of Preston is one of the old and honorable names of Chester county, and the family is contemporary with that of the Coates family, whose early American members founded Coatesville, Pennsylvania.

S. POWELL CHILDS is a descendant in the sixth generation of Henry Child, who resided in Coldshill, in the parish of Rindersham, Hertford county, England. The family were of the Society of Friends. He was eminent as a writer and speaker among them, and was on close and intimate terms with William Penn. He had several children. From William Penn, Henry Child made a purchase of five hundred acres of land, for which he paid ten pounds sterling, on the 20th of January, 1687. Henry Child accompanied his young son, Cephas, to America in 1693. The purchased land was then located in Plumstead, Bucks county, Pa., and the son was placed with a family in Philadelphia, where he learned the carpenter trade. The father, after returning from England, came back and finally settled in Ann Arundel county, Maryland. In 1715 Henry Child gave the above mentioned land to his son Cephas, who, having in 1716 married Mary Atkinson, of Philadelphia, settled on the land in Bucks county. They had nine children, the sixth of whom, named Henry, was born on the homestead in Bucks county, January 1, 1725. He married Mary Shoemaker, of Gwynedd Monthly Meeting, August 3, 1750. Their children were: Sarah, John, Isaac, George and Thomas. Of these, John, the grandfather of S. Powell, was born April 3, 1755, in Plumstead, Bucks county, from which place his father removed with his family, in 1776, to Cheltenham, Montgomery county. John was married June 5, 1777, to Mary, daughter of Peter Phipps, of Abington. They had twelve children, eight of whom lived to be men and women, and were named Mary, Peter, Sarah, James, Tacy, Elizabeth, John and Margaret. Of these, Peter, the father of the subject of this sketch, was born in 1780, in Cheltenham township, Montgomery county, Pa. He married Sarah Rogers, by whom he had several children, only two of whom, James and Sarah, survived infancy and youth, and are still living at the age respectively of eighty-four and seventy-eight years. Sarah married Charles Shoemaker, of Whitpain township, in 1840. He is now deceased. The second wife of Peter Childs was Rosanna Lee, daughter of James and Elizabeth Lee, nee Krickbaum, of Lower Merion.

Their only child, S. Powell Childs, the subject of this sketch, was born June 7, 1832, in Plymouth township, Montgomery county, Pa., on the farm upon which he now lives, and which has been his residence from the time of his birth. This farm was then owned by Samuel Powell, his mother's uncle. It was then rented and occupied by Peter Childs, who afterwards purchased it.

Samuel Powell, the uncle, who was a widower without children, lived with the Childs family, being cared for by his niece until his death, in April, 1844. The boy, S. Powell, was named in honor of this uncle, and when old enough became his almost constant companion. The uncle remembered his young namesake in his will with a handsome legacy. S. Powell Childs attended school steadily from his sixth until his eleventh year, after which, until his fifteenth year, he worked on the farm in summer and went to school in winter, after which a term at the private academy of Samuel Aaron, at Norristown, closed his school education. At this time he was an active reader, and his thirst for knowledge was supplied by books from the Whitpain library and other sources.

His father having died in 1844, the time and effort of the son was now needed to assist his mother in the management of the farm and in marketing the products in Philadelphia. Upon attaining his majority in 1853, he bought of his father's estate the homestead farm, containing sixty acres, to which a few years later twenty-five acres were added. This farm has been greatly improved by the erection of new and commodious buildings, and by a skillful system of husbandry. His mother continued to live here with her son and his family until her death, February 20, 1888, aged ninety-two years. Mr. Childs was on February 9, 1854, married to Mary A., daughter of William and Sarah Schlater, of Plymouth township, who died January 21, 1855. On February 24, 1859, he was married to Malinda, daughter of George and Margaret Freas, of Plymouth township, who was born September 17, 1837. The children of S. Powell and Malinda Childs are: Horace G., born June 7, 1860, and who was killed by lightning June 6, 1883; Mary, born June 13, 1862; Sherman, born August 1, 1864, died August 7, 1866; Sallie S., born September 20, 1868; George F., born August 6, 1870; Ella F., born June 17, 1872, and died November 19, 1880; and Lizzie H., born January 27, 1875. The living children remain with their parents. Sallie S. is an accomplished and successful teacher in a public school of this district. Mr. Childs' father, and all his father's ancestors, male and female, for five generations, were members of the Society of Friends. His mother, not being a Friend, he failed to be a member by birthright, but he was reared under the influence of the Quaker faith, and for the most part believes in it.

In politics, Mr. Childs is a Republican. He was one of the local founders of that party and an active and influential member, but he has never desired or sought office. He held for a term the office of assisant internal revenue assessor. In 1876 he was tendered and accepted the nomination for the office of State senator, when, although he received more than his party's vote, that party being in the minority, he was not elected. He has taken great interest in educational matters, and has endeavored to improve the public schools. He was elected a director in 1856, and during the greater part of the time since then, has been a member of the board. He has been the secretary thereof almost continuously since 1873. His nomination for director has always been made by the party in the minority and yet his election has generally been by a large majority. He early advocated a township high school, and five years ago had the satisfaction of helping to organize one. The school has fully justified his expectations.

His skill as a farmer and his devotion to

his profession as such, has frequently been recognized. He has for a long time been reporter of statistics for the State Board of Agriculture of Pennsylvania, and chief reporter in Montgomery county of the same for the United States Department of Agriculture. He was a member and for some years a manager and vice president of the Montgomery County Agricultural society, and he actively assisted in organizing Cold Point Grange No. 606, Patrons of Husbandry, October, 1875, and was elected its first master, a position to which he was re-elected many times. During this time No. 606 became the banner Grange of the State. He is at present treasurer of this Grange.

He has also held for several terms the position of master of the Montgomery County Pomona Grange, and is at this time the treasurer thereof. In the Pennsylvania State Grange, of which he is a member, he has held the position of member of the executive committee, a position of great trust and responsibility.

Mr. Childs has always taken an active part in matters of local interest, progress and improvement, and several years ago, while in the board of managers of the Montgomery County Mutual Fire Insurance company, he aided largely in having that staunch company extend the principles of insurance to damage done by storm, as well as that done by fire. He contributed liberally of his time and money to aid the establishing of the corporation and the factory known as the Plymouth Valley Creamery company. He has for many years been an advocate of good roads, and he now enjoys the satisfaction of seeing the principal highways of Plymouth township macadamized, and also the electric trolley cars of two companies running on the principal roads of said township, giving facilities at intervals of a few minutes to reach Norristown, Philadelphia and other places, and practically annihilating time and distance.

WILLIAM R. PECHIN, of Norristown, is a member of a family noted for longevity and the piety and faithfulness in religion for its members. He is a son of William and Elizabeth Pechin, and was born in Philadelphia, November 25, 1825. The Pechins are descendants of the early French Huguenots, many of whom were pioneers in the Mississippi valley. John Pechin, paternal grandfather, was a native of Philadelphia, where he was a carpenter for some years, and then retired from active business life at an early age. He was a Whig, and served one term as tax collector in his native city, and was a member of St. Paul's Episcopal church, in the welfare of which he was greatly interested. He married Ann Wallace, to whom were born seven children: William, Thomas W., who died quite young; John C., now deceased, who resided in Philadelphia and devoted much of his time to the interests of the church of which he was a member, and of whose Sabbath-school he served as superintendent for twenty years; Mary, Ann, Robert W., who died at the advanced age of seventy-three years; and Elmira, who lived to be eighty-three years of age. Mr. Pechin passed away November 1, 1860, after arriving at the age of ninety-two years.

William Pechin was born and reared in the same city as his father, where he became engaged in the tanning business. On Schuylkill Front and Cherry streets, he opened a tannery and carried on an extensive business. In his day he stood in the

front rank of business men, and did much to shape the different industries of his immediate neighborhood in the Quaker city. He also owned a fine farm in Chester county. In politics, Mr. Pechin was at first a Democrat, but afterwards became a Republican. He was a member of the Episcopal church. He married Eliza Adams, and this union was blessed with one child : John A., who is a resident of Exton, Chester county, Pa., his mother dying while he was very young. He afterwards married Eliza Bewley, and they had six children : William R., Robert W , who resides in Chester county ; Edward T., who died in 1866 ; George J., a resident of Philadelphia , Charles, who died in 1878 ; and Anna C. Laird, who died in 1866. Mr. Pechin died in 1877, at the age of eighty-two years, and Mrs. Pechin passed away in 1841, when in the forty-fifth year of her age.

William R. Pechin received his education in the common schools, and was engaged in the tanning business with his father until he became twenty-three years of age. At that time he opened up a tannery at Strafford, Chester county, where he remained five years. In 1857 he removed to King of Prussia, Montgomery county, where he purchased a farm of seventy-two acres, and upon which was located a tannery. There he resided for twenty-seven years, and then, in 1883, removed to Norristown, where he now lives a retired life. For seven years he served as vice president of the Norristown Passenger Railway company, on which railway they first ran horse cars ; it has since been changed to a trolley line. He was one of the chief promoters of the enterprise. He is a Republican, and a member of the Junior Artillerists of Philadelphia, and took part in suppressing the riots in Philadelphia in 1844.

On March 1, 1849, Mr. Pechin married Sidney M. Walton, a daughter of Isaac Walton, a farmer and saddler of Horsham township. The Walton family are of English descent, and trace their trans-Atlantic ancestry back to four brothers, who came to America before the arrival of Penn. They afterwards located in Philadelphia and Bucks county. The Waltons are of Quaker belief and are pious and peaceable citizens. Jesse W. Walton, paternal grandfather, was a resident of Bucks county, where he owned a fine farm and was engaged in agricultural pursuits. He had but one brother, Joshua, also a farmer, who had two children.

Mr. and Mrs. Pechin are the parents of seven children : Anna Eliza, who married Nathan Anderson, and resides at King of Prussia, Montgomery county ; John W., of Philadelphia, who is a manufacturer of leather belting and factory supplies, and who married Anna, daughter of George and Matilda McDowell, of Paoli, Chester county ; Mary L., who married Charles H. Murray, and resides at King of Prussia ; Edward T., a resident of Philadelphia, who married Matilda, a daughter of George and Matilda McDowell ; Margaret W., who married W. K. St. Clair, of Parksburg, Chester county ; Jesse W., a druggist, at Thirteenth and Columbia Avenue, Philadelphia ; and Mason Jones Pechin, who is a commercial traveler.

I. HESTON TODD, a prominent citizen and business man of Port Kennedy, is a son of John and Martha (Heston) Todd, and was born at Chester Valley, Chester county, Pennsylvania, in 1839. His paternal grandfather, David Todd, was a native and life-long resident of Chester Valley, where he was a man of considerable means

and owned a large tract of land. He was a Democrat and Presbyterian, and a man of prominence and influence in the community where he lived. His son, John Todd, was born in 1809, and resided on the home farm until 1885, when he removed to West Chester, the county seat of Chester county, where he died in 1893. Like his father before him, he was a Democrat and Presbyterian, and always took an active interest in local affairs. John Todd wedded Martha Heston, a daughter of Isaiah Heston, of Chester county, Pa., whose father, Isaiah Heston, was a Revolutionary soldier, who was wounded at the battle of Monmouth, and remained a cripple until his death. Mrs. Martha Heston Todd was born in Chester county, Pa., in 1810, and is still living. They reared a family of six children : David, I. Heston, Gilbert H., Margaret, Mary and Charlotte. Mary, the fifth in order of age of these children, married Joseph Menkin.

I. Heston Todd was reared in Chester Valley, in his native county, received his edcation in the common schools and Tremont seminary, and was engaged in farming with his father until after he was of age. He then went into the banking business at Downington, Chester county, and two years later went to Philadelphia, where he accepted a position in the Fourth National bank, which he afterwards resigned to engage in the retail coal trade, in which he remained until 1873. In that year he came to Port Kennedy and engaged in his present lime and limestone business. His quarries are located on the old Valley Forge camp grounds, one mile from Port Kennedy, and besides selling limestone, he also operates lime-kilns, the product of which he disposes of in the surrounding cities. He is also interested in a large wood pulp mill at Buena Vista, Virginia, and has been a stockholder for several years in the Iron National bank of Pottstown. Mr. Todd has been identified for over twenty years with the movement to establish a National Park at Valley Forge, being a member of every committee appointed towards securing that commendable object. He was appointed Valley Forge Park Commissioner by Governor Pattison, and removed by Governor Hastings for political reasons. He is a strong Democrat, and served as a delegate from the Seventh Congressional District to the Democratic National Convention, at Chicago, in 1892, that nominated Grover Cleveland for President of the United States. He is a member of Thompson Lodge No. 340, Free and Accepted Masons, of Green Tree, Chester county, Pa.

On February 21, 1865, Mr. Todd married Jennie A. Robb, who was a daughter of Archimedes Robb, of Chester Valley, Chester county. She died in 1880, and left four children: Charles M., Helen W., John Robb and Joseph Heston. Five years after the death of his first wife, Mr. Todd, on October 6, 1885, was united in marriage with Anna Pawling, a daughter of Dr. Henry DeWitt Pawling, and a granddaughter of Hon. Levi Pawling, who was a distinguished lawyer, and served as a member of Congress.

WILLIAM BROMER, a wide-awake business man, and the proprietor of the Bromer tailoring manufacturing establishment at Schwenksville, is a son of Albert and Catharine (Shepherd) Bromer, and was born at Schwenksville, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, November 6, 1864. He attended the public schools until he was fifteen years of age, and then took a full six months course at Bryant and Strat-

ton's Business College, of Philadelphia. Returning from there he worked in various departments of his father's tailoring manufacturing establishment until 1889, when he succeeded to the proprietorship of the entire business. Mr. Bromer employs seven hundred hands, and has a regular output of eight thousand garments per week, which are delivered to the leading wholesale clothing houses of Philadelphia, while during the busy trade season of the year he manufactures about ten thousand garments per week. His establishment is a three-story structure containing two ware and packing rooms thirty-five by sixty feet, a button-hole factory thirty by forty, and two finishing and shipping rooms twelve by sixteen feet. Mr. Bromer is a Republican and a member of the Reformed church, in which he has served for some time as a trustee.

On October 16, 1888, William Bromer married Katie Mary Willard, a daughter of Peter Willard, of Trappe. Their union has been blessed with two children, a son and a daughter: Ruth, aged four years. The son died an infant.

The Bromer family is one of the old and respectable families of the city of Kehl, in the grand duchy of Baden, Germany. Frederick Bromer, of that city, owned an extensive bakery and wine cafe, which was destroyed three times in as many different wars, when Kehl was subjected to bombardment. These losses reduced him from affluent circumstances to a state of limited means at the time of his death. He reared a family of two sons and one daughter. The eldest son served as a soldier under Napoleon Bonaparte, and was killed during the invasion of Russia. The younger son, Jacob Bromer, learned the trade of tailor and became a merchant tailor in Kehl. He came to Philadelphia in 1869, but not finding the facilities for business that he was led to believe existed there, he returned to his native city, where he died a few years later. He married and had eight children: Sophia, widow of Richard Krug, of Philadelphia, now living at Schwenksville; Jacob, a soldier in the German army, who took part in the revolution of 1848, in Germany, and came to Philadelphia, where he followed merchant tailoring until his death in 1854; Frederick and Minnie, both died in early life; Louise, wife of Christian Mayer, of this county; and Albert, father of our subject.

Albert Bromer was born September 2, 1837, received a fair education and at fifteen years of age came to Philadelphia, where he learned the trade of tailor with his brother Jacob. After the death of the latter in 1854, he became a journeyman tailor and worked for ten years in various places. At the end of that time, in 1864, he came to Schwenksville and started a small merchant tailoring manufacturing establishment and disposed of his products to the leading clothing houses of Philadelphia. From thence forward his business career was one of abundant success until he disposed of his establishment to his son William, on January 1, 1889. Since then Mr. Bromer has not been engaged in active business. He is a Republican and a member of the Reformed church, and on April 9, 1860, wedded Catharine Shepherd, a daughter of William Shepherd, of Philadelphia. They have eleven children living: Elizabeth, wife of Irwin Schwenk, teller of the First National bank; Susan, married Samuel Weller, a salesman of Philadelphia; Rev. Albert, a graduate of Yale college, and pastor of Grace Reformed church, of Philadelphia; William, whose name heads this sketch; Rev. Edward, a

graduate of Yale college, and pastor of the Orwigsburg Reformed church, in Schuylkill county; Frank, now in his senior year at Lehigh college; Jacob, engaged in business with his brother William; Katie, a graduate of the Philadelphia High school; Minnie, a student at Ursinus college; and Courtney and Ralph, who are at home with their parents.

HON. JOHN WOOD, ex-member of Congress and the oldest active business man in Conshohocken, if not in Montgomery county, has for many years enjoyed the distinction of being one of the most prominent and important figures in the business and political circles of his native county. Four score years of activity in the business world have failed to dim a fertile mind, that is still capable of good counsel in the workings of a big corporation, nor have they destroyed the activity of body that would compel him to retire and in the sunset of a brilliant career step aside and live again in the past. In everything the word implies, John Wood is a remarkable man. From early youth he took kindly to mechanical pursuits, and with a brain filled with inventive genius, he scored successes that were important to home and foreign manufacture. Though never aspiring after office, he did take up politics when he thought he could serve his country, and when he did enter that field he took with him the same courage, the same clear thought, and the same shrewd way of going in for success that made him victorious in the commercial sphere. His wonderful political success and his careful, conservative and timely action in congress at a period when the social centre of the country was being shaken with the distant rumblings that foretold of National disruption, won for him a distinguished name among his colleagues, and when fully understood, brought to him the hearty commendation of his constituents, who, if permitted, would have testified their confidence by a re-election, that would have been practically unanimous. Such a man is John Wood, the subject of this sketch.

The sound and peaceful policy of William Penn has given to the people of Pennsylvania what no other State can boast—a true, honest title to their land. No man, honest in himself, need fear the inspection of the title papers of the land he owns in Montgomery county, for it was secured from the original owners in a legitimate business transaction. Having secured this property, first by grant from England, that did not own it, and later from the native and rightful proprietors, Penn's next object was to have the land settled and made use of for farming and other purposes. To this end numerous colonizing expeditions were fitted out in England, and with one of these, in 1690 or 1700, James Wood, a single man of means, and a member of the Society of Friends, cast his lot and came to Pennsylvania. Arriving here, he turned his face toward Montgomery county, and settled and purchased a very large tract of land in Plymouth township, and settled down for life at what is now known as Blue Bell. This property remained in the family up to 1832, though it had been divided among the children. He lived on this big farm until he died, and his remains were laid to rest in the Friends burying ground at Plymouth Meeting. The original ancestry of the emigrant, James Wood, was a mixture of English and Welsh. He was the father of these children: Margaret, Mary, Elizabeth, Catharine, John, Dawees, Catharine 2d.

John Wood was the grandfather of ex-Congressman Wood. He was born at Blue Bell, Plymouth township, at the old homestead, in 1747. He was a farmer by occupation, tilling the soil of the original Wood farm, and died there in 1832, at the age of eighty-five years. He married Catharine Davis, and their union was blessed by the following children: James, father of the subject of this sketch; Jane, Samuel, John and David, who became a literary man of considerable note.

James Wood began life in the humble sphere of a village blacksmith, but he was a born mechanic, and long before he died was counted among the most celebrated manufacturers in his district. From the anvil and forge in a small village, he soon worked his way to prosperity and prominence in the iron industry, and the works he founded still exist as a monument to a self-made man. He secured good schooling in the schools of his day, and then learned the trade of blacksmith. He opened a smithy at "The Gulf." He soon began to manufacture sickles, and later other agricultural implements, first opening a factory at Valley Forge, then at Fox Chase, and finally at Conshohocken, where the business grew to large proportions, including the manufacture of shovels, spades, saws, and other implements, and the industry gained a wide reputation. He also founded the Delaware Iron works near Wilmington, and having his sons in partnership with him, conducted both establishments. Later he sold the Delaware works to his son Alan, and confined his entire energy to the Conshohocken works with his sons, under the firm name of James Wood & Sons. Later his son Alan also disposed of the Delaware plant and came to Conshohocken. Here with his two sons, Alan and Howard, he established a small mill of one pair of rolls. This mill now covers fifteen acres, with a capacity of 20,000 tons a year and employing six hundred hands. James Wood was no seeker after office, and only held one public position, that of school director of Plymouth township. He was president of the board from 1834 to 1839, and during that time when free schools were being introduced against bitter opposition, the members of the board had no easy task to maintain the stand they took for the new school law. He lived a peaceful, busy, honored life, and died in January, 1851, at the advanced age of eighty-one years. His second wife, Ann, survived him until January, 1882, when she had reached her ninety-second year. Mr. Wood was married twice. His first wife, Mary Thomas, of Plymouth, bore him nine children: James, Alan, Catharine, Mark, Mary, who died in infancy; Thomas, Mary and Sarah. His second wife was Ann W. Warner, of Philadelphia, and this union was productive of eleven children: Lydia, Charles, John, William W., David L., Thomas C., George F., Anna J., Martha A., Caroline T. and Benedict D. Of these children there are living at the present time: John, Charles, Anna J., Martha and Benedict D.

Hon. John Wood, the subject of this sketch, was born in Philadelphia, on the 6th of September, 1816, and is a son of James and Anne W. (Warner) Wood. He was brought up in the pure and wholesome atmosphere of the Friends Society of that city, and received his education in their schools on New street. At the age of sixteen years he entered the counting house of his father's large agricultural and tool manufactory in Philadelphia, and remained associated with him in business until his death. In 1832, their business having in-

creased so greatly, a large factory was opened at Conshohocken, and this establishment had connected with it a mill for the manufacture of sheet and boiler iron, then a new industry in the United States. At this time Mr. Wood had not yet reached his majority, but his training had been superior, and he showed such energy and enterprise, that he not only doubled his father's business, but became associated with Lewis A. Lukens at New Market Forge, Quitopohill Creek, Lebanon county, where they manufactured blooms to their great profit, but sold out his interest to his partner in 1840. A year later he and his brother, William W., started a rolling mill on Red Clay creek, near Wilmington, Delaware, for the manufacture of sheet iron, and remained there four years. In 1844 he sold out this plant to his brother Alan, and came back to Conshohocken and associated himself with James Wood & Sons, and superintended the erection of a new and large mill. Under his direction this mill was quickly completed and the capacity of the works again doubled. This establishment came to be known as one of the most important sheet iron concerns in the country, and in a short time later its reputation became even greater and more wide-spread, for Mr. Wood began to turn his attention to making an imitation of the celebrated and costly "Russia sheet-iron," that was used to cover high-priced heating stoves and other machinery. After much experimenting, he was successful and his mill began turning out an article equal in every way to the imported article, and of course at a much more reasonable figure. This patent is known as "Wood's Process," and is the only one that has ever displaced the product from the Czar's dominions. It came to its perfection just at the time of the Crimean war, and the J. Wood & Bros. mills were kept very busy supplying the demand, the Russia iron not being exported during the war. Mr. Wood became senior member of the firm in 1851, when his father died, and he then built steam mills at Conshohocken, which turned out five thousand tons a year. He is a man of wide, practical experience, and was thoroughly competent to take hold and work with his men in any part of his big establishment. The mills ran on, constantly growing in importance and increasing in business under the old firm name of J. Wood & Brothers, until 1886, when it was incorporated into a company under the title of the J. Wood Brothers Company, of which Mr. Wood is president, George W. Wood, his son, vice-president and general manager, and William M. Wood, his nephew, treasurer. The mills have a present capacity of 22,000 tons of sheet and plate iron a a year, and over five hundred hands are employed.

Mr. Wood has not taken more than ordinary interest in party politics, though he was a patriot of the most sincere quality and was known to be for the preservation of the union. In the latter fifties politics reached fever heat. The Democratic party had lost the confidence of the people, and the Republican party, just coming into prominent notice, was not looked upon with that favor, which later on enabled it to sweep the country from end to end. The territory then known as the Fifth Congressional District comprised Montgomery county and several conservative wards in Philadelphia. In this latter city were many who were afraid of the strong abolition sentiment and did not want to lose the trade of the South, and they held back from coming out distinctively against slavery. For these reasons a Republican candidate in Congress would not suit them, and they were desirous

of retiring the then Democratic incumbent. Such was the condition of affairs in 1858, when these people, under the title of "The People's Party," nominated and persuaded John Wood to be their candidate for Congress. After deep and earnest reflection, he consented, and that was one of the most exciting congressional contests in the annals of our State history. The Democratic candidate, who was then in office, Hon. Owen Jones, had been elected two years previous by a majority of over two thousand; this year he was defeated by Mr. Wood by a majority of two thousand five hundred and sixty-four votes, the latter carrying the county by nine hundred and thirty-eight votes. During this campaign Mr. Wood conducted a fight that was upright and honorable in every way, but he was a man of magnetic qualities, and he made and kept friends.

His course in Congress was in every way in keeping with his personal character and high sense of duty and honor. There was a bitter fight for speaker, and as neither the Republicans or Democrats had enough votes to win, the contest was long, lasting for fifty-eight days. John Sherman, of Ohio, was the candidate of the Republican caucus, and the Democrats had taken up Bocock, of Virginia. This dead-lock was not broken until Mr. Wood, with Messrs. Morris, Junkin and Scranton, of Pennsylvania, and Nixon, of New Jersey, agreed to vote for Smith, an American party man, from North Carolina. The Democrats, seeing no chance to win, turned against Bocock and would have elected Smith if Mr. Wood and others had not changed their votes at the last moment, having learned of enough to make them fear Smith's sentiments on the tariff. The Republicans then took up Pennington, of New Jersey, a Republican of conservative ideas, and he was elected. Mr. Wood's action at this crisis was at first questioned, but its value was appreciated later and he was offered an unanimous re-nomination. This he would not accept, as he had no liking for the wranglings and profitless party fights that then created such a scandal in congressional affairs. Mr. Wood had other good reasons for not remaining in politics, as about this time his mills needed his close attention. His successor was W. Morris Davis, also a Republican, who defeated the Democratic candidate, Harry Ingersoll.

Mr. Wood has been married twice. In 1840 he married Miss Elizabeth K. Wells, the cultured daughter of James Wells, at one time high sheriff of this county. This estimable and highly respected lady died in 1864. Two years later, in January, 1866, Mr. Wood was joined in marriage to Miss Hettie Peterman, daughter of Benjamin Peterman, a prominent paper manufacturer of Elkton, Maryland. The children of the first marriage, who are living, are as follows: Helen, wife of Major Mauch, U. S. A.; James W., who married Miss Josie Hoffman, of Allentown; Clara, who intermarried with D. H. Merriman, a prominent lumber manufacturer of Williamsport; William W., John, jr., who married Ida Slingluff, of Norristown; George W., who married Laura H. Wilson; Lizzie W., who is the wife of William H. Cresson, of Conshohocken; Rachel, died April 11, 1871; and E. J. Morris, died July 21, 1861. The second marriage was blessed with three children: Mary P., Walter D. and Edith M.

Besides his own immediate business enterprises, Mr. Wood is interested in many public institutions of a financial character, among them being the Tradesman's bank of Conshohocken, of which he was president for five years, when he resigned; the Guar-

antee Building and Loan association, and the Fidelity Building and Loan association, both of Conshohocken. He has always been recognized as a man of great financial tact, and to-day commends the hearty respect of all who know him.

COLONEL DANIEL M. YOST, who is largely identified with the business interests of Norristown, is a son of Judge Isaac F. and Rosina (Miller) Yost, and was born in Pottsgrove township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, August 27, 1839. The Yosts, who are of Dutch descent and came originally from the Netherlands, have been residents of Montgomery county for five generations. Colonel Yost's great-grandfather, Philip Yost, was a Whig and served throughout the Revolutionary war as a soldier in the Pennsylvania line. He was but nineteen years of age when he enlisted and saw the hardest of service, being at Long Island and Paoli and enduring the sufferings of Valley Forge during the winter of 1777. He was also at the battles of Trenton and Monmouth. His parents were Philip and Veronica (Dotterer) Yost, and his father, who was born in 1718, in Nassau, west Germany, came to America prior to 1738. Philip Yost, the younger, was born in Limerick township, August 24, 1757. He married Rosina Berringer, and his son, Benjamin B. Yost (grandfather,) was born December 31, 1787, and reared in Montgomery county. He was a surveyor by profession, but a carriage manufacturer by trade and occupation. He served as fife-major of an American regiment during the war of 1812 or the second war for Independence from Great Britian. He was a Democrat in politics, and a member and official of the German Reformed church. He was elected to the office of county commisioner in 1833, and twelve years later he was nominated and elected as register of wills, which latter office he filled for a term of three years. He married Sarah Weaver on November 13, 1813. His son, Hon. Isaac F. Yost (father), was born March 2, 1815, in Pottsgrove township, and when he grew to manhood became a farmer. He is a resident now of Boyertown, Berks county. He served as county auditor and commissioner, and was the last associate judge of Montgomery county. He is a Democrat, and in his early life was an able advocate of the free school system, which then encountered a bitter opposition in part of the State. He not only advocated free schools, but aided practically in their establishment and support by teaching in them for a short time and then serving for many years as director in his township. Judge Yost took an active part in early life in military matters and commanded a militia company. As a farmer he was progressive, and when the Patrons of Husbandry was organized in Pennsylvania, he became a member and worker of that organization. He is a member of the German Reformed church. He married Rosina Miller, a daughter of Daniel Miller, of Pottsgrove township. To their union were born fourteen children, of whom ten are living.

Daniel M. Yost received his education in the public schools of his native township, and before he had attained his sixteenth year came (March 18, 1854) to Norristown to engage as a clerk in a dry goods establishment, where he remained until 1861. In the following year he formed a partnership with I. H. Brendlinger, which lasted about ten years, when the firm changed to D. M. Yost & Bro. In 1878 the firm

changed to its present title of D. M. Yost & Co , of which Colonel Yost is the senior member. The firm does a large wholesale and retail dry goods business. Colonel Yost is also connected with the hosiery business, being the senior partner of the Norristown Hosiery company.

Colonel Yost's military record commences back in the dark April days of 1861, when on the 19th day of that month, he enlisted in Company K, 4th Pennsylvania infantry. He was successively promoted to corporal and to orderly sergeant, and with his captain (W. H. Cooke) and two others of his company, volunteered to go into the first battle of Bull Run. At the expiration of his term of service he returned, but in September, 1862, he raised, a company of Emergency men, with the assistance of his father, in forty-eight hours, and joined the 11th Pennsylvania regiment, which, by his instrumentality, was the first regiment to cross the State line and re-inforce General Reynolds at Hagerstown. At the formation of the regiment, he was promoted from captain to lieutenant colonel by Governor Curtin, and held the latter rank at Antietam. On his second return from the army, he accepted, at the request of Governor Curtin, the lieutenant-colonelcy of the 179th Pennsylvania infantry (of which the late Judge William Yerkes, of Philadelphia, was major), which he commanded during the greater part of its term of service. He commanded the regiment at the battle of White Oak Cross-roads, July 1, 1863, and was wounded there in the leg, and at Baltimore Cross-roads, July 2, 1863, received another wound in the hip so severely as to render him unfit for further active duty. He was discharged on account of disability and expiration of term of service, on July 27, 1863.

On December 29, 1863, Colonel Yost was united in marriage with Hannah C. Feather, daughter of Solomon Feather, of Reading, this State. They have five children: Marie Rosina, Daniel F., Harry L., Ella and Walter.

In political opinion Colonel Yost is a Democrat, while in religious faith and church membership he is a Lutheran. He is connected with the Odd Fellows, Knights of Pythias, and the military order of the Loyal Legion of the United States. He is a high degree Mason, being a member of Charity Lodge No. 190, Free and Accepted Masons; Norristown Chapter No. 190, Royal Arch Masons; and Hutchinson Commandery No. 32, Knights Templar.

HENRY W. REIFF is at present the most prominent merchant and business man at Lederachville. He is interested in a general store and a number of other important enterprises, and holds an enviable place in the business and social life of his community. Mr. Reiff comes from a race of industrious and prosperous farmers. His grandfather was born in Skippack township. He went to the district schools, and during the rest of his long life worked a farm of eighty-five acres. He was a very active Republican. Mr. Reiff's father attended school until he was sixteen years old, and then went on the parental farm. He was a farmer and huckster all his life. Like his father, he was a Republican. He was a very prominent member of the Mennonite church, and was an honest, consistent Christian. He was the father of the following children; George, Mary, who died young; Samuel, Jacob, Abraham and the subject of this sketch. He is still living and is aged

seventy-three years. His estimable wife was born June 26, 1830, and is still enjoying good health.

Henry W. Reiff is the son of Jacob S. and Susan (Weiss) Reiff, and was born in Skippack township, September 17, 1865. Until the age of fifteen he attended the district schools. He then engaged as a clerk in his father's store at Lederachville, and remained there in that capacity until he was twenty years old. His father then admitted him to partnership. When he was twenty-two years old he bought out his father and continued the general store business until 1890, when, failing in health, he sold out to Keiser & Allebach. Two years later, having regained his health, he bought back the business and has been running it ever since. He is also head of a thriving tailoring business and does custom work. Besides this he has a very prosperous cigar factory that employs twelve hands.

Mr. Reiff is a Republican, and has held many offices. At present he is commissioner of the district, judge of election and justice of the peace. He is a member of the Reformed church, and has been superintendent of the Union Sunday-school at Lederachville for six years, and is organist of the church and leader of the choir.

On December 24, 1888, he was married and is the father of two children: Jacob, born November 22, 1889; and Lizzie, born January 1, 1892. Mr. Reiff is very prominent in all public movements, and is looked up to and respected by everybody.

CHARLES C. KNOX, an influential citizen and successful farmer, located near Wynnewood, is a son of Josiah and Sabina (Bishop) Knox, and was born on the old homestead farm in Lower Merion township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, March 9, 1849. He was reared in the old farm house in which he was born, and received his education in the common schools of Lower Merion township, and Concordville seminary in Delaware county. After leaving school he took the full commercial course at Crittenden's Business college of Philadelphia, from which he was graduated in 1868. Thus equipped for business pursuits by his commercial training, he returned home and assisted his father in farming until the death of the latter during the next year. He then managed the farm until he attained his majority, when he came into possession of it. His farm contains one hundred and twenty acres of good grain and grazing land, and lies within one-half mile of Wynnewood. For nearly twenty years Mr. Knox was personally active in its cultivation and improvement, but since 1891 he has only busied himself with its management and giving the necessary attention to his other business affairs. Mr. Knox has always preferred the quiet and steady pursuits of an agricultural life to the worriment and strain of any occupation or line of work in the active business world. While he has not reaped the immense gains of some fortunate speculation, yet neither has he lost in one rash venture the accumulations of years, and to-day possesses a competency acquired by honorable labor and judicious management. He is a Democrat, and has held the offices of school director, assessor and auditor of his township. Mr. Knox is identified with the Lutheran church, in whose faith and teachings he was reared. He is unmarried.

The American Knox family, of which Charles C. Knox is a member, is a branch of the old Scotch-Irish Knox family, and

was founded by Hugh Knox, who was one of the earliest settlers of Lower Merion township. He purchased a farm, which at his death, passed into the possession of his son, Louis Knox, who married Margaret Miller, and was a leading member of the Lutheran church in his community. Louis and Margaret Knox were liberal Christians, who evinced a living friendship for all other religious denominations by their contributions to every church erected in their neighborhood. They had four children: Josiah, James and Susan, who are dead; and Jane, who is now in the eighty-second year of her age.

Josiah Knox (father), was born on the home farm, which he afterwards inherited, and on which he always resided. From time to time he purchased adjoining property until he had become the owner of a tract of fertile land of two hundred and forty acres, which, at his death, was divided into two tracts, one of which was given to Charles C. Knox, and the other to his daughter, Margaret C. Knox, who married Edmund Green. Mr. and Mrs. Green have one child, a daughter, Sabina Knox Green.

Josiah Knox was a successful farmer, an earnest Lutheran, and a strong Democrat. He held numerous local offices in his township, was a member for several years of an old militia cavalry company, and always led in any public enterprise for the benefit of the community in which he resided. He lived to be sixty-five years of age, dying in September, 1869. He wedded Sabina Sheaff Bishop, a daughter of George Bishop. To their union were born six children, four sons and two daughters: Louis and Jackson, who died; Margaret C., wife of Edmund Green; J. Bishop, deceased; Charles C., the subject of this sketch; and Sabina, now deceased. The Knox family, through its six generations in America, has made for itself an honorable record.

PROFESSOR JOHN K. HARLEY, a prominent educator of Montgomery county, is the youngest son of the late Henry and Anna (Kulp) Harley. He was born on his father's farm, at Trappe, this county, February 17, 1855. His grandfather, John Harley, was a resident of Germantown, where, upon his death, which was by accident, he left a family of six children, among whom was Henry, father of Professor Harley. After his father's death, Henry, then a mere boy, went to live with a farmer by the name of Frick, in Worcester township, this county. After several years of farm life, Henry apprenticed himself to John Hendricks, of Skippack, to learn the trade of a shoemaker. Soon after completing his apprenticeship, and upon his marriage in 1834, he removed to a farm at Trappe, then belonging to the Rev. Abraham Hunsicker. On this farm Henry lived the rest of his life, following his trade along with farming until his death on June 27, 1882, at the age of sixty-nine years.

Henry Harley was married to Anna Kulp, a daughter of Isaac Kulp, who lived upon a farm about two miles west of Trappe, where he died when Anna was but thirteen years old. After her father's death she lived with Dillman Godshall, of Lower Salford township, until her marriage. She died March 1, 1878, at the age of sixty-seven years. Henry Harley was quite active in local public affairs, and for several years was a supervisor in Upper Providence township. In politics he was

a Republican. In religion he was an adherent of the Mennonite church, in which he always took an active part and felt a deep interest.

The family of Henry Harley consisted of seven children, the oldest of whom was Catharine, who died at the age of fourteen; Isaac, who now resides on a large farm near Manassas, Prince William county, Virginia; Abraham, residing now at what was for many years the "Cross Keys" hotel, in Lower Providence township, and carries on butchering along with farming; Mary, wife of Josiah H. Custer, who lives on a farm a mile west of Trappe; Henry, deceased January, 1878, at the age of thirty-one years; Elizabeth, wife of Gabriel G. King, residing near Trappe, and John K., (subject) who at present resides at Conshohocken.

Professor John K. Harley worked on his father's farm until nineteen years of age, attending the public schools of the neighborhood during the winter months. He also attended the Washington Hall Collegiate Institute, for a few winter terms, at Trappe, which at that time was conducted by Abel Rambo, A. M. In October, 1874, he began teaching public schools. He taught continuonsly for five years in Lower Salford, Upper and Lower Providence townships, during which time he also took a course of study, in 1877, at the Bryant and Stratton Business College, in Philadelphia. In 1879 he entered the State Normal School, at Millersville, Pennsylvania, from which institution he graduated in the year 1880.

Professor Harley then resumed his profession and taught school in Lower Providence township for three years. Always being ambitious to push his studies further and thus more fully equip himself for the profession of teaching, he was in the spring of 1882, admitted to the junior class at Ursinus College, Collegeville, but owing to the death of his father at that time, he was obliged to leave that institution before graduation. He however subsequently pursued at the college an advanced course in mathematics for which he has a great liking.

While teaching with great success in Lower Providence, Professor Harley originated and worked out a system for a graded course of study for country schools. The system was adopted in that township in June, 1882, and the first class in the county was graduated from the public schools under the system in May, 1883. This graded system of study has since become widespread in the country, and is exerting a powerful influence in the efficiency of the country schools.

In 1882 Professor Harley edited and published a small work on the "History, Geography and Government of Montgomery County," designed as a text book for the public schools of the county. The work has now passed through three editions. In 1883 Professor Harley, by competitive examinations, became a member of the faculty of the Boys' High school of Reading, Pa., as teacher chiefly of mathematics, book-keeping and drawing. He continued very successfully in this position until his election in 1888 to the principalship of the High school of Pottstown. Here he continued for one year with splendid success, when soon after his re-election, he was elected in August, 1889, to the principalship of the public schools of Conshohocken.

He maintained his connection with the Conshohocken school until 1892, filling his position very ably. In March of that year

he was appointed to the Department of Graphics in Girard College, Philadelphia, entering upon his duties there May 2nd, and has been connected with that institution down to the present time

In 1886 Professor Harley issued a handbook for teachers and students of history, entitled "Topical Outlines of the History and the Constitution of the United States," which has since passed through many editions.

He has also been a frequent contributor to leading educational journals and to the Montgomery County Historical society, of which he is a member. He is now pursuing, *ad interim*, a course of study in the Department of Philosophy, at the University of Pennsylvania.

Politically Mr. Harley is a Republican and is at present a member of the school board of Conshohocken, where he lives, having been elected a director soon after his retirement as principal of the schools of that borough. He is also a member of Washington Camp No. 121, P. O. S. of A. In matters on religion, he is a member of St. Luke's German Reformed church at Trappe, and for a time was leader of the choir of that church.

On June 10, 1886, Professor Harley was married to Miss Ida M. Gotwals, of Lower Providence, a daughter of John Z. Gotwals, now of Highlands, N. C. Mrs. Harley was also a teacher in the public schools of the county for several years. To this union have been born three children, two of whom are living: Edith G., born December 11, 1890, and Allen G., born October 27, 1892. Professor Harley, upon the death of his father, came into possession of the old homestead at Trappe, where he along with his other duties, engaged in farming until September, 1889.

JOHN A. RIGHTER, an old and respected citizen of near Wm. Penn Post Office, is a son of John and Elizabeth (LeGaux) Righter, and was born at Spring Mill, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, September 16, 1821. He received his education in pay schools at various places in the county, for a time attending at Conshohocken, and afterwards at William Kerr's school. At seventeen years of age his school life closed, and he then remained with his father until 1847. Having married in 1845, he moved into the dwelling that was built by his father, and in which the latter still lives. He was there engaged in the mercantile business until the breaking out of the Civil war. In the meantime he had engaged in the soap stone business in Lower Merion township, where he purchased a farm and worked soap stone quarries for twelve years. He then sold his farm to Howard Wood and Clement Griscom, and since 1876 has lived a retired life. He owns one hundred and eleven and one-half acres of land near Phoenixville, Chester county, and is well and favorably known throughout his community.

Mr. Righter was formerly an old line Whig, but is now an ardent Republican. He is a director and one of the promoters of the Tradesmen's Bank of Conshohocken. He has served as director of the poor of Montgomery county for three years, and for many years was a school director of his district. In educational affairs he takes an active part and is always interested in the progress of the schools. He is a member of Charity Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons, at Norristown.

Mr. Righter was married on December 11, 1845, to Rebecca Kirkner, a daughter of Joseph and Elizabeth Kirkner, of Barren

Hill. Mr. and Mrs. Righter have four children: Daniel, Horace B., Joseph K. and Kate, who married Michael K. Wood, of Conshohocken, and has a family of children, Frank A., and John R., the latter of whom is paying teller in the Tradesmen's National Bank, of Conshohocken.

The Righter family is of German extraction, and trace their American ancestry back to one of three Righter brothers, who with two sisters, came to America. One brother located in Lower Merion township, and John, the great-grandfather of the subject of this sketch, settled on Mill Creek, in Lower Merion township, where he owned a grist mill. The sisters were Quaker preachers. John Righter (grandfather) reared a family of children, one of whom was Anthony Righter, who was born in Lower Merion township. He was a mill-wright by trade, and resided during the latter part of his life in White Marsh township, on the property purchased by his son John. He married Catharine Taylor, by whom he had nine children: John, Morris T., Isaac, Joseph, Anthony, Richard, Mary Pontzler, Catharine and Elizabeth Nuss. Mr. Righter died at the age of eighty-nine years. John Righter (father) was also a native of Lower Merion township, and in early life was dependent upon his own resources. He first worked upon a farm and afterwards became engaged in burning and hauling lime to the Philadelphia markets. He afterwards shipped a great amount of lime by canal and burnt as high as three hundred thousand bushels in one year. He employed many men and has shipped to Philadelphia annually for many years. Later in life he abandoned the lime business and devoted his attention to farming at Spring Mill, where he was very successful. John Righter, sr., was formerly a Democrat, but later a Republican, and was ever active in the interests of his party. He took an active part in the Underground Railroad, and was a birthright member of the Society of Friends. He died in 1869, aged eighty-three years. His remains were interred in the Barren Hill cemetery. He married Elizabeth LeGaux, and reared a family of the following children: Peter L., who resided in Bucks county, now deceased; Isaac, (died young); Joseph and Anthony P., who are deceased; John, Charles C., a farmer in White Marsh township; Lindley V., a retired farmer at Lafayette, Montgomery county; George W., of Upper Merion, and Lucressa R. Mrs. Richter died in 1867, when in the seventieth year of her age. Peter LeGaux, maternal grandfather, was a native of the Province of Lorraine, France, from which he came to America in 1785. He was an attorney-at-law in his native country, and was also a member of the National Academy of Sciences, and after coming to this country was engaged in the practice of medicine. He was admitted counsellor at the parliament at Metz and at the Supreme Tribunal, Nancy, in 1768. He was a member and correspondent of several academies of science and arts in Europe and America, and was also a contributor to the Columbia Magazine, chiefly on meteorological observations. He died at Spring Mill, on September 27, 1827.

FRANCIS HOUPT, the postmaster at Dreshertown, is a son of Henry, jr., and Sarah (Leightkep) Houpt, and was born in Upper Dublin township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, October 19, 1839. The Houpt family in Montgomery county

is of German descent, and has produced many very successful business men The name was originally spelled Haupt, and the earliest progenitor of the family, Samuel Houpt, came to this country long before the Revolutionary war, and in 1776 he owned a farm of ninety-six acres near Jarrettown. Henry Houpt, sr., was the grandfather of Francis Houpt, and he also was a farmer and resided near Jarrettown. His son, Henry Houpt, the younger, was a life-long resident of Upper Dublin township, in which he was born June 11, 1807, and died November 1, 1885. He received his education in the old subscription schools and learned the trade of stonemason, which he followed for several years. He worked on bridges and other county work and the hotel at Jarrettown, which he built and conducted for several years. He was a Lutheran, and a Democrat in politics, and a member of Upper Dublin Lodge No. 458, Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He married Sarah Leightkep, and their family consisted of nine children, six sons and three daughters: Anna, George, Levi, Hannah, Charles, Francis, Sarah, Henry and Samuel. The children Anna and Sarah both died in childhood, and Hannah is the widow of John Shay.

Francis Houpt was reared in his native township, received his education in the schools, and then learned the trade of mason, which he followed continuously for ten years in different parts of the county. In 1867 he quit his trade to purchase property at Dreshertown, where he opened his present general store. In politics he was formerly a Democrat, and while supporting that party he served as township auditor and school director. He is now a Prohibitionist, and advocates the principles of that party as necessary for good government and national prosperity. He was appointed by President Cleveland, on February 6, 1885, as the first postmaster at Dreshertown, and has continued in that position ever since, under Harrison and Cleveland's administrations. Mr. Houpt was president for some years of the Jarrettown Building and Loan Association, and is a member of Jarrettown Lodge No. 458, Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He has been a member for thirty years of the Methodist Episcopal church, in which he is now serving as steward and trustee.

On October 10, 1867, Francis Houpt married Anna DePrefontaine, of Jarrettown. To Mr. and Mrs. Houpt have been born thirteen children: John, Harry (deceased), Irvin, Jennie, Mary, William (deceased), Albert, Edward, Carrie, Francis, jr., Oliver, Anna, and one child that died in early infancy.

JOHN ELLWOOD LEE, founder, secretary and treasurer and general manager of the J. Ellwood Lee Company, of Conshohocken, is the oldest son of Bradford A. Lee and Sarah (Raser) Lee. He was born at Conshohocken, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, on November 9, 1860. He attended the public schools at Conshohocken until he reached the age of sixteen years. He then left school and made an effort to maintain himself at several different employments. Becoming dissatisfied, however, with the insufficiency of his education, he re-entered school, and at the end of three years completed his studies and graduated. He then obtained a position with William Snowden, a maker of surgical instruments and dealer in surgical appliances in Philadelphia. Remaining in this service for four and a half years, he obtained a mastery of

the business, which encouraged the belief that he could establish and conduct upon a more extended scale a business of his own.

Returning to Conshohocken, he embarked in the manufacture, in a small way, with less than one hundred dollars capital, of surgical appliances, which appeared to him to be in such demand as to warrant his undertaking. His operations were conducted in a single room, which was factory, salesroom and office. His success was immediate. This was due largely to the fact that Mr. Lee possesses a rather remarkable inventive faculty, which enabled him to prepare various novel appliances of such merit that they found popularity among surgeons in all parts of the country. One of his inventions was a perforated metallic splint, nicely shaped to the part of the body to which it was to be applied, light, flexible and wonderfully superior to the clumsy and inflexible wooden splint so long used and now still to a considerable extent employed. These splints were favorably received at once, and the demand for them and for his other wares compelled Mr. Lee to construct a two-story shop, which was equipped with a steam engine.

The business, swiftly expanding, another building was soon added, and in 1887 a third was erected in the shape of a three-story stone mill of much larger dimensions than those of the two earlier buildings. As the demand for his products increased, Mr. Lee felt the want of much larger capital, and, in 1888, some of his friends in Conshohocken joined him in forming the corporation known as the J. Ellwood Lee Company, with a capital of $75,000. In 1890 this capital was increased to $150,000, and again increased in 1894 to $500,000. The members of the company are Charles Heber Clark, president; Charles Lukens, vice president; J. Ellwood Lee, secretary, treasurer and general manager; Alan Wood, Jr., Howard Wood and Conrad B. Lee.

Since the organization of the company the business has been much enlarged and extended, and the buildings have been added to until now they offer floor space probably five or six time that possessed by the corporation when the charter was granted. The added buildings include a three-story stone mill, devoted to the manufacture of catheters and the production of other articles; a large bleach house, drying room, card room and finishing room for the manufacture of absorbent cotton, of which his company is one of the largest producers in the world, making cotton of the finest quality; and a four-story stone mill, devoted to the manufacture of plasters of every variety, antiseptic preparations, many of them patented, oiled silk, etc., etc. The general products of the mills may be classified under the single head of surgical supplies, for individual and hospital use, many of which are patented, no less than twenty-four patents having been granted to Mr. Lee since 1887. The company sells its wares in every part of the world, having agencies in London, Berlin, Paris, Melbourne, Sidney, Toronto, and in all large cities in the United States.

Its remarkable success is due chiefly to the uniform excellence of its products, the effort being to attain to the highest degree of serviceability and to give to each buyer exactly what he pays for. The patents owned by the company have also done much to promote its interests, Mr. Lee having displayed somewhat extraordinary success in exerting his inventive power in directions which were indicated by the needs of surgeons. From eminent surgeons in this and

other countries he has had warm letters of congratulation upon his skill in supplying them with facilities for the safe practice of their profession.

To inventive talent of no ordinary kind, Mr. Lee adds executive ability as a business man, which is not so rare a gift, but is still of vital importance in conducting the operations of a concern so large as this. Ably assisted, he is after all the principal supervisor of the manufacturing processes, that go on in the great mills; and his also is the mind that directs the business of placing the goods in the hands of customers. Mr. Lee is a quiet, modest, unassuming gentleman in his manners. He is a member of the Episcopal church, and a vestryman in that organization.

On April 12, 1882, Mr. Lee was united in marriage with Jennie W. Cleaver, a daughter of Mrs. A. J. Cleaver, and a sister to Hon. John Wood. To their union have been born three children: Mary, deceased; Elsie, and J. Ellwood, Jr.

JACOB A. STRASSBURGER, who for nearly twenty years has been prominently connected with the Norristown bar, is a son of Reuben Y. and Elizabeth Z. (Schwenk) Strassburger, and was born October 15, 1849, in Hilltown township, Bucks county, Pennsylvania. As the name would indicate, the family is of German origin, and traces its American ancestry back to an educated German pioneer who came to Pennsylvania about 1765, and settled in Bucks county, where he taught school for many years, and is buried at Tohickon graveyard. He left one son, who must have come over with him from Germany and who settled in Lehigh county, where he became very wealthy and was regarded at one time as the richest man in that county. He was a tanner by trade and carried on that business with other enterprises for many years. One of his sons, John Andrew Strassburger, paternal grandfather of the subject of this sketch, a native of Lehigh county, removed to Bucks county, this State, about 1818. He was a minister of the Reformed church, and was actively engaged in ministerial labors in Bucks county from 1818 to 1854, at which time he retired. To the generation now rapidly passing away his name was a household word. He died in May, 1860, at an advanced age, and is buried in Franconia township, Montgomery county. He married Catharine Stout, by whom he had a large family, one of his sons being Reuben Y. Strassburger (father), who was born in Rockhill township, Bucks county, October 1, 1823. After attaining manhood he engaged in the general mercantile business, which he followed successfully until 1869, when he removed to Schwenksville, Montgomery county, and embarked in the lumber and coal business.

He was accidentally killed on August 14, 1872, by falling from the top of a car which was being backed up to his warerooms. In politics he was a Whig and Republican, and in religion a member of the Reformed church. He took a prominent part in the work of his church with which he was officially connected for many years. A man of fine education, he was public spirited, and possessed of excellent business qualifications; he was successful in his undertakings, and by industry and enterprise accumulated considerable wealth. January 21, 1847, he married Elizabeth Z. Schwenk, daughter of Jacob Schwenk, and to them was born a family of seven children, four of whom still survive: Annie, became the wife of

J. A. Strassburger.

Joseph Doman

Benjamin F. Leidy, cashier of the Farmers' National bank of Pennsburg; Kate A., married Charles M. Spare, of Haverford, this county, agent of the Philadelphia and Reading railroad at Belmont; Magdalena, wife of Wilfred L. Stauffer, general manager of James Lees & Sons' Manufacturing company at Bridgeport; and Jacob A., the subject of this sketch. Mrs. Elizabeth Z. Strassburger, widow, is still living at Schwenksville.

Jacob A. Strassburger was reared principally in Hilltown township, Bucks county, receiving his education in the public schools, Quakertown and Treemount seminaries and Ursinus college, from which latter institution he was graduated in 1873. He then studied law under General B. F. Fisher and was admitted to the bar in Philadelphia in 1875. For some time he practiced in Philadelphia, but in September, 1878, removed to Norristown and was admitted to the bar of Montgomery county, where he has been continuously engaged in the duties of his profession to the present time. In addition to conducting a large general practice, Mr. Strassburger has acted as solicitor for the directors of the poor and the clerk of the courts, and is a member of the law library committee and the committee on revising and indexing the records of Montgomery county. This law library is considered one of the best in Pennsylvania, and the method of indexing adopted in the records of Montgomery county is complete and exhaustive as used in connection with public records.

On December 15, 1880, Mr. Strassburger was united in marriage with Mary Beaver, only daughter of Dr. Ephraim K. Beaver, of Albertus, Lehigh county, Pennsylvania. To Mr. and Mrs. Strassburger have been born two sons and one daughter: Elizabeth B., Ralph B. and Perry B.

In politics Mr. Strassburger is an ardent Republican, always taking an active and intelligent interest in political and civic affairs. In 1883 he was a candidate for district attorney, but was defeated. In 1892 he served as a delegate from the Seventh Congressional District of Pennsylvania to the National Republican convention at Minneapolis, and has been very active in local politics. He is a director in the Norristown Title, Trust and Safe Deposit company, and in the Riverside Cemetery company, both of which he assisted in organizing, and is also a director in the Perkiomen and Sumneytown Turnpike company. For a number of years he has served as a trustee of Ursinus college, his *alma mater*, and from which he received his master's degree in 1876. He is also connected with the faculty of that institution as lecturer on the constitution of Pennsylvania. In religion Mr. Strassburger is a member of the Heidelberg Reformed church at Schwenksville. He is also a past master of Warren Lodge No. 310, Free and Accepted Masons, at Trappe, Pa. His professional and business career has been successful, and as a citizen and lawyer he takes high rank among the people of his adopted county.

JOSEPH FORNANCE, Esq., a member of the Montgomery county bar, who has been in active, successful practice here for nearly thirty years, is the eldest son of Hon. Joseph and Anne B. (McKnight) Fornance, and was born in Washington, District of Columbia, April 24, 1841, while his father represented this district in the Congress of the United States. Anthony Fornance, paternal great-grandfather of the subject of this sketch, lived at New Castle, Delaware,

where he died in 1768. One of his sons, John Fornance, was born at New Castle, 1766, removed to Philadelphia, afterwards to Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, and married, in 1791, Elizabeth Roberts, daughter of Thomas Roberts, of Blockley township, Philadelphia county, whose ancestors, Welsh Quakers, came about 1684 from Wales, and were among the earliest members of the Friends' Meeting at Merion. John Fornance died at Norristown in 1845, and is buried in Montgomery cemetery at Norristown, together with his wife and his three children.

His youngest child, Hon. Joseph Fornance, was born in Lower Merion township, Montgomery county, October 18, 1804, and received his education at the old academy in Lower Merion. A certificate of Noah Leeds, principal of the Lower Merion Boarding school, dated 7th month, 11th, 1820, states that "Joseph Fornance has attended the school for about two years, mostly studying the mathematics, such branches as algebra, surveying, navigation, and the most useful problems of nautical astronomy, calculated for a sea-faring life, to which his attention seems to have been drawn."

After leaving school, he taught for some years in the schools of this county. About 1829 he abandoned teaching and began the study of law in the office of Hon. Philip S. Markley, at Norristown. He was admitted to the bar August 21, 1832, and in 1834 was elected by the Democrats to represent Montgomery county in the State assembly. While there he took an active part in securing the abolition of public executions, and advocated a compulsory public school system. After serving one term he was defeated in 1836, through the Muhlenberg division of his party. In 1838 he became the Democratic nominee and was elected to represent what is now the Seventh Pennsylvania District in the congress of the United States. His duties as a member of the Twenty-sixth congress were discharged with such ability that he was re-nominated by his party in 1840, and notwithstanding the excitement attending the "log cabin and hard cider campaign" that carried the Whig candidates—Harrison and Tyler—to the White House, Mr. Fornance was triumphantly re-elected, and took an active and prominent part in the proceedings of the Twenty-seventh congress. Speaking of his congressional career, a writer has said: "Mr. Fornance's two terms in congress were distinguished by the bitter controversies about the safe-keeping of the public funds and the institution of the Independent Treasury by Van Buren's administration. That famous measure had been rejected at the extra session in 1837, but passed both houses in the session of 1840. It was regarded as the great achievement of that presidential term. During all this exciting period, Mr. Fornance steadily sustained the principles of his party, and doubtless truly represented his constituents. His manner was ever mild, consistent and firm. On retiring from congress he held, as he always had, a character above reproach for ability and integrity."

After serving two terms in congress, Mr. Fornance resumed the practice of law, and devoted the remainder of his life to that profession, acquiring a large and responsible practice. In 1851 he was nominated by the Democracy of Montgomery county as a candidate for president judge of the Seventh Judicial District. Bucks county, then part of the district, also presented a Democratic candidate, Henry Chapman. The party strength in the district being thus divided,

both Democratic candidates were defeated by the Whig candidate, Hon. D. M. Smyser, of Gettysburg. For a number of years Mr. Fornance served as a member and president of the town council of Norristown, holding that position at his death. He was active in promoting the welfare of the town, and procured the passage of several important laws to lay out and improve the streets. In recognition of his services, one of the streets was named for him after his death.

During his first congressional term he formed the acquaintance of Miss Anne B. McKnight, a daughter of Captain John McKnight, of Alexandria, Virginia, to whom he was married in Washington City in 1840. Her ancestors were all Pennsylvanians. Her great-grandfather, John McKnight, was one of the Scotch-Irish pioneers, who settled in the Cumberland valley, near Chambersburg, Pa., in 1735. Her mother was a daughter of Christian Piercy, a prominent citizen of Philadelphia, and a captain in the Revolutionary war. To their union was born a family of seven children, four sons and three daughters: Joseph, whose name heads this sketch. John, a pupil at Treemount seminary, Norristown, afterwards graduated as a civil engineer at the Polytechnic institute of Philadelphia in 1861, at the age of eighteen, and immediately entered the United States navy as an engineer. He was in active service during the entire Civil war, in the Gulf of Mexico and on the Atlantic coast, taking part in several engagements, and was on the United States steamer *Nyack* at the capture of Fort Fisher in January, 1865. He continued in the navy after the war, and was two years in the South Atlantic squadron. In 1867 he was assigned to duty on the United States steamer *Oneida*, of the Asiatic squadron, and after a cruise of three years met a heroic death on that vessel, when with her crew of one hundred and twelve officers and men, she was sunk by collision with the British iron steamship *Bombay*, near Yokohama, Japan, on January 24, 1870. At this time he was in the twenty-seventh year of his age. James, graduated from West Point Military academy in 1871, served as a lieutenant in the 13th United States infantry, in the Indian troubles on the western plains, and afterwards as instructor in the United States military school at Fort Leavenworth.

He is now captain in the 13th infantry, United States army, stationed at Governor's Island, New York harbor. Thomas, one time sheriff of Wood county, Wisconsin, and afterwards a resident of Tacoma, Washington. Elizabeth, widow of Edward Price Jones, of Lower Merion, this county, now resides at Norristown. Catharine, wife of Captain Frank H. Edmunds, of the 1st United States infantry, whose father, Hon. Newton Edmunds, was at one time governor of Dakota Territory. Captain Edmunds is now stationed at David's Island, New York. Mary, unmarried, now residing in Philadelphia. Hon. Joseph Fornance died at his home in Norristown, November 24, 1852, in the forty-eighth year of his age. In person he was tall and well formed, with dark, ruddy complexion, dark hair and eyes, regular features, and an habitual expression of gravity and dignity. His widow survived him nearly forty years, and died on May 27, 1892, and was buried in Montgomery cemetery.

Joseph Fornrnce, the eldest son, who was named for his father, was reared in Norristown, Montgomery county, and received his primary education in the public schools. He afterward entered Treemount seminary, and later pursued special studies there

under the care of Rev. Samuel Aaron. After completing his education, he engaged in teaching, and followed that occupation for several years. He was afterwards, for a short time, employed as a clerk in the office of the clerk of the United States District court in Philadelphia. He then determined to devote himself to the profession of his father, and began the study of law with Gilbert R. Fox, Esq., of Norristown. Passing the usual examination, he was duly admitted to the bar of this couuty April 12, 1866, and began the practice of law. In 1877 he removed to St. Louis, Mo., with a view of locating there. After a year's trial, however, he returned to Norristown, where he has ever since resided, practicing in his profession.

He has met with very gratifying success and acquired an honorable standing at the bar. In politics he adheres to the traditions of his family and is a Democrat, though he has never taken an active part in political affairs. He was president of the Montgomery County Centennial association, which celebrated, in 1884, the centennial of the foundation of Montgomery county. His labors in that cause materially promoted its great success. He is now vice president and an active member of the Historical society of Montgomery county, in which he takes great interest.

On February 22, 1881, Joseph Fornance was married to Ellen, daughter of Colonel Thomas P. Knox, of Norristown, Pennsylvania, ex-State senator from Montgomery county.

To Mr. and Mrs. Fornance have been born three children, only two of whom survive: Joseph Knox, born September 16, 1882; Eleanor, born November 15, 1883, and died July 10, 1893; and Lois, born October 28, 1885.

JAMES P. FAMOUS, contractor and inventor, a son of John R. and Rebecca (Peters) Famous, was born August 31, 1859, in Lower Merion township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania. His paternal grandfather, Jacob Famous, was a farmer by occupation and lived nearly all his life in Lower Merion township. He was a Republican in politics. He was the father of a family of five children. One of his sons was John R. Famous (father), who was born on the old homestead in Lower Merion, where he grew to manhood and was educated in the common schools. He engaged in farming and followed that occupation for a number of years, but finally entered the employ of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad company. He was a Republican politically and a Baptist in religious belief. His death occurred in 1863, when he was in the thirty-seventh year of his age. In 1854 he married Rebecca Peters, a daughter of James Peters, of Lower Providence, and by that union had a family of three children, two of whom are still living: Jacob A, James P., and Mary Emma, who became the wife of William C. Benner, is now deceased.

James P. Famous lived in Lower Providence township until he was ten years of age, attending the public schools. In 1869 he entered Girard College in Philadelphia, from which institution he was graduated in 1877. He was then apprenticed to his step-father, William Hallowell, to learn the trade of bricklayer. After serving an apprenticeship of four years, he worked at the trade for his step-father for seven years, and then embarked in business for himself as a general contractor and builder. He has followed this business ever since and has been successful. In 1894 he erected the large Hartranft school house in Norristown, and

is now (1895) engaged in constructing the new brick market house in the same borough. He has executed contracts for brickwork for many of the leading builders of Norristown, and also erected the Norristown Steel works in 1891. His work has always given satisfaction, and he is winning reputation as a contractor and builder.

In politics Mr. Famous is a staunch Republican and has served three years as a member of the Norristown council, in which he was chairman of the fire committee. He is an active and influential member of the Lutheran church, and is also a member of Curtis Lodge No 239, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, in which he has passed all the chairs, and is likewise connected with the Patriotic Order Sons of America.

In connection with his contracting and building business, Mr. Famous is something of an inventor, and claims the honor of inventing the spirit level and inchnometer for builders' use. He is a member of the Pennsylvania Steel Casting company, of Norristown, and of the association of American inventors.

On February 27, 1884, Mr. Famous was united in marriage to Ella E. Henninger, a daughter of David J. and Rachel A. Henninger, of Norristown. To Mr. and Mrs. Famous have been born four children, one son and three daughters. The eldest. a son, and the youngest daughter are living: George H. and Marian A. The others were twin daughters: Evelyn E. and Rachel A., and both died in infancy.

HORACE AUGUSTUS K. THOMAS, a good business man, of Norristown, Pennsylvania, is the only son of the late Augustus and Elizabeth (Koons) Thomas, and was born July 18, 1863, at Tylersport, Montgomery county, Pa. The family is of Welsh descent and has been resident in eastern Pennsylvania since early times. William Thomas, paternal grandfather of the subject of this sketch, was born at Swamp, this county, in 1807, and died at Tylersport in 1876, aged sixty-nine years. He was reared in his native place, but latterly removed to Tylersport and retired. He was a popular hotel man and conducted numerous hostleries throughout this section of the Keystone State, becoming well and favorably known in the greater part of eastern Pennsylvania. A man of character and purpose, he was a devoted member of the Reformed church and early identified himself with the Jacksonian wing of the Democratic party, which he supported all his life. He married Rebecca Fritz and reared a family of four sons: Lucian, now deceased; Augustus (father), also dead; Henry and Frank. Augustus Thomas (father) was born at Swamp, this county. He secured a good common school education, and then engaged in mercantile pursuits, which, together with auctioneering, he followed during nearly all his active life. The last twelve years of his life was passed at Norristown, where he died September 21, 1892, at the age of sixty-two years. For fifteen years he was a director in the Souderton National bank. He was a Democrat in politics and for thirty years served as postmaster at Tylersport, being exempt from military duty during the war on account of holding this office. In religion he was a strict member and for many years a trustee of the Reformed church. He was also for many years a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He married Elizabeth Koons, a native of this county and a daughter of James Koons. By that union he had a family of three child-

ren, one son and two daughters: Horace A. K., the subject of this sketch; Annie and Naoma.

Horace Augustus K. Thomas, was reared at Tylersport, this county, and in the public schools there received his elementary education, which was afterward supplemented by two terms in Ursinus college. He first came to Norristown about 1882, remaining here until 1888, when he formed a partnership with Frank Thomas, an uncle, under the firm name of F. & H. Thomas, and embarked in the general mercantile business at Argus, Bucks county, Pa. In 1890 he returned to Norristown, where he became a partner in the mercantile firm of Geiger & Thomas, and has ever since been engaged in general merchandising in this borough. Their place of business is at No. 523 Main street, where by careful attention to business and energy, these gentlemen have succeeded in building up a valuable trade which is every year becoming larger and more profitable.

On November 28, 1894, Mr. Thomas was married to Anna Morrison, a daughter of George Morrison, of Philadelphia. In politics Mr. Thomas is a Democrat, and in religious faith also adheres to the traditions of his ancestors, being an active member and deacon of the Trinity Reformed church, of Norristown. He is also a member of Montgomery Lodge No. 57, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, of Norristown.

THOMAS J. BUTCHER, manager of the sheet-iron department of Alan Wood company's large rolling mill at Conshohocken, is a son of Benajah and Sarah (Jones) Butcher, and was born at Fee Fee, near St. Louis, Missouri, July 4, 1860. The Butcher family is of English origin and the founder of the American branch was a member of the Quaker colony that settled in Burlington, N. J., about 1677. His grandson, whose Christian name was Benajah, sr., was the father of Benajah Butcher, jr., who was a quiet and steady farmer and died in 1850, at sixty-five years of age. He married Abigail Roberts, of Marlton, N. J., and of the twelve children born unto them in their New Jersey home, one was Benajah 3rd, the father of the subject of this sketch. Benajah Butcher was born February 2, 1836, received a good English education, and in 1859, removed to Fee Fee, St. Louis county, Missouri, where he purchased a farm. He was a Friend and a Republican, and died May 31, 1864, at the early age of twenty-eight years. He married Sarah Jones, and to their union were born two children, a son and a daughter: Thomas J. and Caroline L., who is the wife of William L. Reynolds, a merchant of Gwynedd, this county. Mrs. Butcher afterward married Elwood Holbert of Abington, this county, and went with him to Neodesha, Kansas, where she died September 12, 1871, in the thirty fifth year of her age. She was the daughter of John and Phoebe (Buckman) Jones, of Gwynedd, this county.

Thomas J. Butcher, after the death of his mother, when but eleven years of age, came alone to Pennsylvania and made his home principally on the farm of Chalkley Styer, his uncle, in Whitpain township. After being graduated from the Norristown public schools in 1879, he took a course in mathematics at Treemount seminary under Prof. John W. Loch. Leaving school at the age of twenty-one, he began teaching in the upper end of this county. In 1882 he was elected principal of the public schools of Rahn Station but resigned that position to

H. Bobb

take charge of the sheet-iron department of Alan Wood company's rolling mill at Conshohocken, and has continued in that position ever since.

On November 15, 1883, Mr. Butcher married Mary L. Blakey, who was a daughter of Paxson Blakey and Letitia (Smith) Blakey, of Quakertown, Pa., and died May 8, 1892, at thirty-five years of age, leaving three children, two sons and a daughter: Chalkley S., Anna S. and T. Herman. Mr. Butcher has since wedded Anna E. Moore, a daughter of William M. and the late Jane (Wakefield) Moore, of Philadelphia.

Thomas J. Butcher is a very careful and reliable manager, intelligent, studious and industrious. Pleasant, energetic and accommodating, he is popular in social and business circles. He is a Republican in politics, and has been for many years a member of Plymouth meeting of the Society of Friends.

HENRY BOBB, M. D., a successful practitioner of medicine and a prominent business man of East Greenville, Montgomery county, is a son of Henry and Elizabeth (Hillegas) Bobb, and was born at the old Hillegas homestead, in Upper Hanover township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, on December 9, 1846.

In the early part of the eighteenth century, a company of German emigrants, led by the Reverend George Michael Weiss, a Reformed minister, and a graduate of the University of Heidelberg, seeking to better their fortunes, set sail for America. Sailing from Rotterdam in the ship *William and Sarah*, they landed at Philadelphia, September 18, 1727. Three days later they took the oath of allegiance to the Province and immediately thereafter settled in what is now Upper Hanover township, Montgomery county, in a region named by the Indians "Goshenhoppen."

Among this band of pioneers and forerunners of civilization, were John Frederick Hillegas, his wife Elizabeth, his sister Barbara, and his brother Michael, whose son, Michael, in 1775, was appointed one of the Continental treasurers. Continuing in this position for two years, he was appointed treasurer of the United States, in which capacity he served until 1789, thus being the first treasurer of the United States. John Frederick Hillegas took up a large tract of land along the Perkiomen creek, in the region known as Goshenhoppen, which is near the present borough of East Greenville. Among his children were George Peter, who was the maternal great-grandfather of Dr. Bobb; Leopold, who came to this country in 1730, was a soldier in the Revolutionary war. He afterwards settled in the State of New York; John Adam, who emigrated to the United States in 1732, settled in Goshenhoppen, and holds the honor of having built the first grist-mill in at least the upper end of Montgomery county; and Conrad, who was born at sea. George Peter Hillegas was born February 2, 1735, and died September 24, 1810. For many years he was a prosperous farmer of Upper Hanover township, and a prominent member of the New Goshenhoppen German Reformed church. His marriage with Anna Barbara Hornecker resulted in the birth of the following children: Eve, John, Jacob, Frederick, Catharine, Elizabeth, Magdalina and Maria Margrath, who married John George Hillegas, the maternal grandfather, being a grandson of John Adam. He was born in Lower Milford township, Lehigh county, Pennsylvania, on the twenty-eighth

day of February, 1771. In early manhood he moved to Upper Hanover township, Montgomery county, where he engaged in agriculture and a general mercantile business. He was possessed of rare business tact and ability, and amassed a considerable fortune. He was one of the most influential men in the upper part of the county, a Democrat in politics, and an official member of the New Goshenhoppen German Reformed church. He died May 8, 1851, and bequeathed his estate to his six children: Charles, George, Jacob, Maria, Elizabeth and Catharine.

Dr. Bobb traces his paternal ancestry to John Conrad Bobb, who came from Germany prior to 1744, for in this year he bought from Christian Beidler one hundred acres of land, including a grist and oil mill, in what is now known as Forgedale, Washington township, Berks county, Pennsylvania. He died in 1760, intestate, but the mill continued to be operated by his youngest son, Daniel, great-grandfather, (who was only in his fourteenth year), until 1774, when he bought it, continuing its operation until 1827, when he sold it to his son Daniel, (grandfather), born July 26, 1781. The mill placing him in comfortable circumstances, he retired in 1857. He died February 27, 1866. His oldest son, Henry Bobb (father), was born in Washington township, Berks county, October 10, 1809, and died August 13, 1891, at East Greenville. In early life he learned the saddler trade, which he followed until about 1840, when he engaged in farming on the old Hillegas homestead, following this occupation successfully until 1868, when he retired. He was a staunch Democrat, and an official member of the Lutheran church. His marriage with Elizabeth Hillegas resulted in the birth of five children: James Daniel, John, who died in infancy; John H, who died at the age of ten; George, who died at the age of twenty-nine; and Henry Bobb. James Daniel died in his fifty-third year, leaving three children, the eldest of whom, Dr. W. G. Bobb, is now a prominent practitioner in Philadelphia.

Henry Bobb obtained a good elementary education at East Greenville, Quakertown, and Washington Hall, Trappe. He taught in the public schools of Upper Hanover township for two years, after which he was for several years a clerk in a general store. Resigning his clerkship, he began to read medicine under the preceptorship of Dr. John G. Hillegas, of Pennsburg, Pa., and was graduated from the University of Pennsylvania at Philadelphia in 1868. The seven succeeding years he practiced successfully at Herfordville, Berks county, besides yielding a strong influence in building up the town. In the spring of 1875 he moved to East Greenville, where he opened a drug store, conducting it with his practice. He was the preceptor of quite a number of medical students, who are now successfully practicing in various parts of the State. He is also treasurer of the borough, which position he held for fifteen years, of the East Greenville Factory Company (Ltd.), and of the East Greenville Water works. Politically, he affiliates with the Democratic party; religiously, he is prominently identified with the New Goshenhoppen Reformed church, and is president of St. John's Reformed chapel at East Greenville. The doctor possesses one of the most beautiful homes in the borough, to which he has attached a valuable conservatory, containing, among others, many rare and beautiful tropical plants. On the fourteenth of May, 1868, he was married to Maria Catharine, a daughter of Peter Hillegas, a linseed oil

manufacturer, residing in Upper Hanover township. To them were born five children: Vincent Peter, Nevin and Henry Hillegas, all dying in infancy; Eugene Hillegas, born July 6, 1875, graduated from Franklin and Marshall college in 1895, and now studying medicine at the University of Pennsylvania; and Mary Mabel, born August 5, 1882, who is now attending school at Perkiomen seminary.

MARK R. SUPPLEE, a veteran wounded Union soldier of Upper Merion township, and superintendent of Ridge Avenue market of Philadelphia, is a son of Alexander N. and Jane M. (Rambo) Supplee, and was born at Swedes Ford, in Upper Merion township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, April 11, 1836. Zimmerman Supplee, the paternal grandfather of Mark R. Supplee, was a resident of near Matsunk, in the lower part of Upper Merion township. He was a farmer by occupation, and a Democrat when the Democratic party was in its infancy. His son, Alexander H. Supplee, was born and reared in Upper Merion township, where he passed his life as a farmer, and where he died September 1, 1882, aged seventy nine years. He was a member of the Christian church, and a prominent and active man in township affairs. In 1830 Mr. Supplee married Jane Rambo, who was a daughter of Jonathan Rambo, of Upper Merion township, and died in May, 1881, at seventy-four years of age. They reared a family of four children, three sons and a daughter: Jonathan R., Andrew, Mark R. and Hannah, wife of Hon. Austin L. Taggart.

Mark R. Supplee was reared on a farm, received his education in the common schools and was engaged in farming until 1861, when he enlisted in Company I, Fifty-first Pennsylvania infantry, as lieutenant, commanded by Colonel John F. Hartranft, major general and afterwards governor of this State. The Fifty-first, under its distinguished commander, made a brilliant record, and Mr. Supplee took part in all of its long exhausting marches and severe and hard fought battles until November 15, 1864, when he was discharged from the Federal service on account of wounds. He participated in the battles of Roanoke Island, Newbern, Second Bull Run, Chantilly, South Mountain, Antietam and Fredericksburg, where he was wounded and sent to a hospital at Alexandria. Recovering from his wound, he re-joined his regiment at Paris, Kentucky, and was with it in the siege of Vicksburg, and in the expedition that drove Johnson from Jackson, Mississippi. The fatigue of this campaign rendered him unable for a time for active field service, and he was placed in the invalid corps, where he remained until his first term of enlistment expired. He then re-enlisted and joined the regiment at Norristown, Pa., under Hartranft, took part in the battles of the Wilderness, Spottsylvania, Cold Harbor, North Anna, South Anna and Petersburg, and then had charge of the brigade ambulance until his old wound became so troublesome that he was discharged for disability on that account.

Returning home from the army, he was engaged in farming until 1865, when he was appointed assistant revenue collector for the township of Upper and Lower Merion and the borough of Bridgeport. Three years later he retired from that office and resumed farming at the place where he now resides, near the village of Abrams, and two miles from Bridgeport. His farm-

ing operations brought him in contact with many of those interested in the Farmers' market of Philadelphia, and in 1887 he was elected to his present position as superintendent of the Ridge Avenue Farmers' market of that city. Mr. Supplee is a Democrat, has held various offices, and has been for thirty years a member of Charity Lodge No. 190, Free and Accepted Masons, in which he has passed all the chairs.

On February 17, 1869, Mr. Supplee married Hannah Baker, a daughter of Benjamin Baker, of Norriton township, Montgomery county, Pa. To their union have been born eight children: Florence, deceased; Benjamin Baker, Linford R., Frank A., Bertha E., Warren E., Mary C. and H. Ethel Supplee.

EDWARD ELSENHANS, clerk of the board of supervisors of Montgomery county, is a native of Norristown, where he was born December 12, 1858. He is a son of Gotlieb and Susanna (Laufer) Elsenhans, the former born at Wurtemberg, Germany, and the latter a native of Switzerland. Mr. Elsenhans has resided in Norristown all his life, being educated in the public schools here. After leaving school he learned the trade of baker, including all kinds of fancy cakes, and carried on that business for a period of six years. He then became a transcriber in the commissioners' office at Norristown, and in 1887 was appointed to the position of clerk to the county commissioners, which place he has acceptably occupied ever since. He is now serving his third term in that position, and for six years was assessor in the Second ward, of Norristown.

For a number of years Mr. Elsenhans has been identified with several secret societies, being a member of Charity Lodge No. 190, Free and Accepted Masons; Montgomery Lodge No. 57, Independent Order of Odd Fellows; Beaver Tribe No. 62, Improved Order of Red Men; and also of the Ancient Order of Good Fellows, Brotherhood of the Union, and Knights of Friendship. He is a Republican in politics, and takes an active interest in everything connected with political or public affairs.

On June 6, 1881, Mr. Elsenhans was married to Dianna Schlotter, a daughter of George and Mary Schlotter, of Norristown, and to them were born three children: Wallace, now deceased; George and Edith. Mrs. Elsenhans died in 1885, and on January 23, 1890, Mr. Elsenhans was again married, wedding for his second wife Ella Hunsicker, a daughter of George Z. Hunsicker, of Franconia township, this county. To this union have been born two children: Edward, deceased: and William R, now in the third year of his age.

The Elsenhans' are descended from an old German family, residing in Wurtemberg, where John Elsenhans, paternal grandfather of the subject of this sketch, lived and died. His son, Gotlieb Elsenhans (father), was reared and educated in the fatherland, but while yet a young man, in 1854, crossed the ocean and settled with his young wife at Norristown, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania. He was a blacksmith by trade and followed that occupation all his life. In politics he was a Republican, and in religion an active member and trustee of the Evangelical church. In 1852 he married Susanna Laufer, a native of Switzerland, and by that union had a family of seven children, four of whom died in infancy. Those who lived to reach maturity are. Edward, whose name introduces this sketch; Emma, now the wife of

William Hendricks, and Mary who married Charles Robeson. Gotlieb Elsenhans died in 1875, at the age of forty-six, and his wife still survives, being now in the sixty-second year of her age.

DR. AMBROSE C. HERMAN, who for the past seven years has been in the active practice of medicine at Lansdale, Montgomery county, Pa., was born at Maxatawny, Berks county, on May 24, 1858. He comes from a family that has been distinguished in Pennsylvania history for over a century. This family is noted for having given to this and their original native country a minister of the gospel or a teacher in each generation for the last two hundred years, and the subject of this sketch is the first of the family to go out to another profession in taking that of medicine. The Herman family has for the last one hundred years and over, done a great deal for the spiritual welfare of Montgomery and other nearby counties. The first member of this family to emigrate to America was Rev. Lebrecht Frederick Herman, who was a Doctor of Divinity in the Reformed church. He was the great-grandfather of Dr. A. C. Herman, and was sent to this country in 1786. He was born in Guesten, principality of Anhalt-Cothen, October 9, 1761, and was a son of Frederick Gottlieb and Dorothea (Wartman) Herman. Having finished his studies in 1782, he was called to Bremen as an assistant preacher. Three years later the deputies of the synods of Holland, who had charge of the Reformed church in America, called on him to go to Pennsylvania, to assist in ministering to the people of the German Reformed church in that State. In February, 1786, he was ordained for the foreign service at the Hague, and landed in America in August of the same year. This earnest worker in the cause of Christ immediately began the service of his life, and from that time until January, 1848, he was indefatigable and tireless in his religious labors. Commencing with the congregations at Easton, Plainfield, Dryland and Greenwich, he worked year after year spreading the gospel and making many converts. For twelve years, dating from 1790, he served the congregations of Germantown and Frankford, preaching both in English and German. He then went to Swamp, Pottstown and St. Vincent, where he preached to those three congregations in the German language. In the meantime, as the educational facilities were of so mediocre and unsatisfactory character, Dr. Herman prepared many young men for the ministry. Among these were five of his own sons, and many divines, who became noted in the Reformed church. The year after he came to America he was joined in wedlock with Mary Johanna, daughter of Daniel and Mary Fiedt, and they had several children. He died on January 30, 1848, aged eighty-six years, three months and twenty-two days. For sixty years he labored in the vineyard, and during that time he baptised 8,555, confirmed 4,600, married 2,600 couples, buried 2,280, and preached 10,080 times.

Rev. Charles Gebler Herman was the grandfather of the subject of this sketch. He was born October 24, 1792, in Germantown. He studied under his father and was ordained at Swamp church, May 1810. His first charges were the Kutztown and DeLong's congregations in Berks county. More congregations were soon added until he was attending to ten with the help of his son, Rev. J. S. Herman. The

charges that he filled from 1810 to 1861, when ill-health compelled him to retire, were as follows: DeLong's, Kutztown, Huft's, Oley, Windor, Gernant's, St. Peter's, Dunkel's, Weiss' Zion, Fogel's, Mertztown and Lehigh. He was present at twelve corner-stone layings, twenty church dedications, and organized five new congregations. He married Esther, daughter of Jacob and Maria Sassaman, on January 14, 1815. They had six children, three sons and three daughters. His wife died in 1851, and he ended a busy and beautiful career on August 4, 1863, aged seventy years, nine months and eleven days. His death occurred on the homestead at Maxatawny.

Rev. Alfred Jasper Herman, a son of Rev. Charles Gebler Herman, and the father of the subject of this sketch, was born at Maxatawny, Berks county, and resides there at the present time. He attended the common schools of his day, and then took a several year's course at a New York college. He was ordained to the Reformed ministry, and has been an able successor of his father and grandfather in the great work. He is known as the Reformed minister of the Fogelsville, Seiberlingsville, Weisenberg and Wessnerville churches. This is only half of the churches that were in his charge a few years ago. He was married to Isabella Grim, and three children were born to bless this union. These are Anna, wife of Dr. Richard H. Beck, of Hecktown, Pa.; Dr. Ambrose C., our subject; and George C., who is a resident of Berks county.

Dr. A. C. Herman was also born on the old homestead, and passed his early life attending the common schools of the district. He then took a two years classical course at the Keystone State Normal school, preparatory for college, leaving there when he was fourteen years old, he entered the sophomore class of Franklin and Marshall college, Lancaster City, Pa., and graduated from that institution in 1877. He decided on medicine as a profession, and read for it under Dr. A. L. Hottenstine, of Kutztown, Pa. He then entered the medical department of the University of Pennsylvania, graduating in March, 1881. He immediately began the practice of his profession at Topton, Berks county, and remained there nine years, when he came to Montgomery county, and located at Lansdale. Here he soon built up a large practice, and to-day is one of the most successful men of his profession in the county. He is a physician of superior ability and commands the respect and esteem of everyone in his vicinage.

On the first of August, 1882, Dr. Herman and Alice Breinig, daughter of Thomas C. Breinig, of Breinigsville, Lehigh county, Pa., were joined in wedlock. Three children have been born to them as follows: Alfred J., Thomas B. and Marion.

CHARLES O. F. TREICHLER, one of the founders, editors and proprietors of the *Perkiomen Ledger*, at East Greenville, this county, is a son of Joseph M. and Matilda (Gery) Treichler, and was born June 17, 1864, at Palm, this county. The family is of German origin, and his grandfather on the paternal side of the family, Samuel Treichler, was one of the earlier settlers in the vicinity of the present village of Treichlersville, Berks county, which village was named after the family. He was a man of enterprise, and possessed a thorough going spirit. He was a merchant and farmer, and owned the greater portion of the land upon which the village

now stands. There he spent an active and industrious life, and there also he died. He was a Republican and a member of the Reformed church. In the villiage which bears the family name, Joseph M. Treichler (father) was born, April 25, 1825. When a young man just starting on the rugged road of life, he assisted in the store and huckstered for a number of years. He was married to Matilda Gery in 1855, daughter of John W., and Kate (Glauser) Gery. They were blessed with eight children: Sarah J., who died in 1861; Catharine, who died in 1858; the third was born dead; Laura O., who died in 1861; John S., who is a member of the firm of J. S. Treichler & Bro., publishers and proprietors of the *Perkiomen Ledger*, but is employed as a printer on the *Evening Bulletin*, in Philadelphia; Charles O. F., subject; Rosa R., and Phoebe H. In 1855 he went into the hotel business at Emaus, Lehigh county, and a few years later moved on a small farm near Palm, this county. In 1864 he went into the store business at Palm, where he continued until 1874. In 1873 he opened the Palm hotel, and conducted the same several years, when he retired to private life. He is a Republican, and served as postmaster at Palm from 1864 to 1874, and is a member of the Reformed church.

Charles O. F. Treichler in his early years obtained a common school education, and when fifteen years of age he started to learn the printing trade in the office of the *Bauern Freund*, Pennsburg, and later worked on the *Daily Times* and *Norristown Herald*, at Norristown. Afterward for two and one-half years he was foreman on the *Weekly Times*, at Springtown, Bucks county. In November, 1890, he became one of the principal founders of the *Perkiomen Ledger*, a paper of Republican principles, and devoted to the local interests of the community and the surrounding counties. In connection with the publication of the *Ledger*, he does a prosperous business as a job printer. He is an active worker in the Republican party, and is secretary of the Perkiomen Valley Republican Club, of which he was one of the chief organizers. He is a member of Washington Camp No. 649, P. O. S. of A.; Greenville Lodge No. 232, Knights of Pythias, and a member of the New Goshenhoppen Reformed Church.

IRVIN B. SPATZ, superintendent and electrician of the Citizens' Passenger railway company, of Norrisiown, is a son of Cyrus K. and Catharine (Bernhardt) Spatz, and was born March 14, 1869, near Reading, Berks county, Pennsylvania.

Grandfather, on the paternal side of the family, William Valentine Spatz, was born in Bern township, Berks county, this State. He was a farmer by avocation, owning two hundred and ten acres near Reading, upon which he lived most of his life and where he died. He was a Democrat politically, and religiously he subscribed to the dogmas of the Reformed church, in which he was prominent as a member and as an official, holding the offices of deacon and elder. He married Elizabeth Kauffman, and seven children were born to this union: Cyrus K., Levi, William, Jonathan, Lavina, Helen and Amelia. The father of Irvin Spatz, Cyrus K. Spatz, was born on the old Spatz homestead, in Bern township, upon which he resided until marriage, and afterward moved upon his own farm, in Muhlenberg township, upon which he still

resides, an industrious and intelligent farmer. He is also a member of the Reformed church, and like his father, has always manifested an enthusiastic spirit in all forms of church work. He is a member of Muhlenberg Castle, Knights of the Golden Eagle; a member of the Muhlenberg school board, and has been treasurer of that body for the past six years, which office he is still holding. His marriage to Catharine Bernhardt, daughter of John Bernhardt, of Muhlenberg township, resulted in the birth of two sons and three daughters: Irvin (subject), Wilson, Katie, Ella and Florence.

Irvin Spatz was educated in the public schools of his native township, the Reading business college, at Reading, Pennsylvania, and the West Chester State Normal school, at West Chester, Pennsylvania. After leaving the Normal school he taught two terms of school, and then for a short time was engaged by Shepp brothers, publishers, of Philadelphia. Then after a short experience of about one year as a meat merchant, at Reading, he took a position for a similar time in the machine department of the Philadelphia and Reading railroad company, at Reading. Leaving this employment he was next engaged for three years in the service of the Reading and Southwestern electric railway company, of the same city, and on August 14, 1893, became superintendent and electrician for the Citizen's Passenger railway company, of Norristown, a position he has held ever since. In addition to the above, Mr. Spatz is a director of the Conshohocken railway company, and the Alfred Slocum Printing company, of Philadelphia. He is a Democrat in political texture, and a member of the Reformed church, and of Lexington Commandery No. 2, P. O. S. of A.

To the marriage, on May 14, 1889, of Mr. Spatz and Mary Shepp, daughter of John Shepp, of Reading, have been born three children: Mabel I, Charles I, and Laura M.

IRVIN H. BARDMAN, editor and proprietor of the Schwenksville *Item*, is a son of John S. and Matilda S. (Hauck) Bardman, and was born in Frederick township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, August 22, 1858. The Bardmans can claim and point with pride to their old world home in a province of the present great German Empire, whose unification was achieved by William I. and Prince Bismarck. The paternal great-great-grandfather of the subject of this sketch, was a native of Germany, and became one of the early settlers of the northern part of Montgomery county, where his grandson, James Bardman, was born September 11, 1809, and died December 3, 1887. James Bardman was a farmer and blacksmith in New Hanover township, where he was a member of the Swamp Lutheran church. He was married four times, and reared in all a family of nine children. By his first wife, Polly Shoenly, he had one son, John S. Bardman, who was born in Douglas township, February 2, 1834. John S. Bardman is a blacksmith by trade, and since attaining his majority, has resided in Frederick township, where he owns and cultivates a small, but productive farm. He is a member of Keelor's Lutheran church; Zieglersville Lodge No. 247, Knights of Pythias; and Perkiomenville Lodge No. 367, Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He is a Democrat, and served two terms as school director, while he is now serving his fifth year as constable and tax collector of his

township. Mr. Bardman married Matilda Samsel Hauck, whose father, Simon Boyer Hauck, is a comfortably situated farmer of Frederick township. Mr. and Mrs. Bardman have reared a family of four children, one son and three daughters.

Irvin H. Bardman was reared on the small farm, received his education in the public schools of Frederick township, Pottstown, and Washington Hall Collegiate institute, of Trappe, and taught in the public schools from 1876 up to 1883. In the last named year he succeeded Rev. N. B. Grubb as editor and publisher of the Schwenksville *Item*, which was founded in 1877. The *Item* was started a four-column folio, 15x22, but now, under Mr. Bardman's management, it has been increased to eight columns to the page, 26x40 inches. The former circulation of the paper was about one thousand copies, but the energy and enterprise displayed by its present proprietor, has increased the subscription list to over twenty-two hundred. The *Item* is an independent weekly paper, and presents fully the general news of the day and local happenings of the country, while it does not fear to attack any evil, and advocates all needed reforms. In connection with his newspaper, he conducts a large and well-equipped job printing office. Mr. Bardman is a Republican in politics, but he never held any political office, except a local one in the township, but he was a delegate to the Republican State convention in 1892. He is a member of the Schwenksville Lutheran church, of whose Sunday-school he has been superintendent since its organization in 1889. He is a member of Perkiomenville Lodge No. 367, Independent Order of Odd Fellows; Washington Camp No. 387, Patriotic Order Sons of America; Zieglerville Lodge No. 247, Knights of Pythias; Iron Bridge Castle No. 104, Knights of the Golden Eagle; and Schwenksville Circle No. 117, B. U. (H. F.) of Pa.

On October 18, 1881, Irvin H. Bardman married Mahala Hummel, a daughter of the late Samuel Hummel, of Nescopeck, Luzerne county, Pa. Mr. and Mrs. Bardman have one child, a son, named Jay Stanley, who was born December 29, 1883.

JAMES MOIR, president of the Conshohocken Woolen company, and one of the leading woolen manufacturers of Pennsylvania, was born in Aberdeenshire, Scotland, July 18, 1820. He received a limited education, which he afterwards supplemented by reading and self-study. In 1841, he came to this country, where he first located at Watertown, Jefferson county, New York. He resided in New York State fourteen years and was engaged in manufacturing. In 1856 he went to Philadelphia, and in 1859, removed to Conshohocken, as superintendent for Thomas Hershaw, who, in 1861, sold out to Bullock's Sons. Until 1873 he was manager of this firm, when he entered into partnership with George and James Bullock, under the firm name of George Bullock & Company. The partnership continued under that heading until 1881, when the partners organized a joint stock company under the name and title of the Conshocken Worsted mills. This new company operated the Conshohocken Woolen mills, the Norristown Woolen mills and the Conshohocken Worsted mills. In the interest of the last named mills, Mr. Moir went to France to examine and study French worsted machinery, which was afterward introduced into the worsted mills at Conshohocken. Mr. Moir acted as superintendent

and general manager of all the mills up to 1888, when he withdrew from the company. The next year George Bullock died, and Mr. Moir was appointed assignee of the company and took charge of its affairs and closed up its business, which he did in a satisfactory manner.

In 1891 Mr. Moir organized the Conshohocken Woolen company, of which he is president. Their plant is thoroughly equipped, has thirteen sets of machines with a capacity of seven thousand yards of goods per week. They employ a force of two hundred and seventy men, and manufacture diagonals, tweeds and government blue cloth. In addition to conducting the extensive business of this large plant, he is interested in cotton manufacturing at Piedmont, Alabama.

Aside from manufacturing, he has engaged in other lines of business. He is interested in the prosperity of his borough and county, and has been for some years a stockholder in the Montgomery County Trust company, the First National bank of Conshohocken, and the First National bank of Norristown.

Mr. Moir is a member of the Conshohocken Gas and Longmead Iron companies, and owns a stock farm of six hundred acres of land in Goochland county, Virginia, upon which he raises a large number of horses, mules and cattle. He is a Republican in politics, but not a politician. In educational affairs he takes a deep interest, and has served for eighteen years as a member of the West Conshohocken school board, of which he was president for several terms. Mr. Moir has been for many years a prominent Free Mason, having passed through lodge, chapter, commandery and consistory, and is now a thirty-second degree or Scottish Rite Mason.

James Moir has been the architect of his own fortune in the busy and important sphere of business life in which he moves and has been so useful. In every position which he has occupied, both in the old and the new world, he has made an enviable record for ability, judgment and untiring industry.

HOWARD WOOD, the president of the Alan Wood company of Conshohocken, is a resident of the town, in which the sheet and plate iron mills of which he is the manager, are situated. To Mr. Wood's recent ancestors and to members of his family of the present generation, Conshohocken owes much, if not nearly all, of its development and prosperity, and of whatever attractive qualities it may possess.

Mr. Wood was born in Philadelphia, the son of Alan Wood, sr., and Ann (Hunter) Wood, on February 8, 1846. He was educated in the University of Pennsylvania, graduating from that institution at the age of eighteen years, with the highest honors, in 1864. He then visited Europe, and upon his return entered the iron mills of Alan Wood & Co., to prepare himself for participation in the business. Mr. Wood is fifth in descent from James Wood, who came from Dublin and settled in Montgomery county about 1720. His mother was a grand-daughter of Colonel William Dewees, who owned Valley Forge and lived there when Washington made his winter quarters there during the Revolution. Col. Dewees distinguished himself in that war in many ways, and interesting stories are told of the valor displayed by his wife in defending and protecting her personal property during the British occupation of Valley Forge. The first ancestor of Mr. Dewees

in this country was Cornelius, who came from Holland about 1700 and settled in Germantown. Another of Mr. Wood's ancestors was Jasper Farmer, who purchased from William Penn, by a patent, dated January 31, 1683, a tract of land containing 5,000 acres, now Whitemarsh township, Pa. Alan Wood, sr., father of Howard Wood, was born on Christmas day of the year 1800, near Blue Bell, Montgomery county. In 1823 he went to Philadelphia and engaged in the iron business with his father, under the firm name of James Wood & Son. Afterwards he purchased the Delaware Iron works, on Red Clay creek, near Wilmington, Delaware. In 1856 the firm of Alan Wood & Co. was formed, and a small rolling mill was built, which has been steadily enlarged until the works now have a capacity of 20,000 tons of sheet and plate iron, and employ about six hundred hands. The establishment occupies fifteen acres, and it is fitted throughout with the latest improved machinery. The first regular position taken by Howard Wood under his father was that of shipping clerk, and he then came in for regular promotion until 1886, when the firm of Alan Wood & Co. was incorporated under the name of the Alan Wood Company, with Mr. Wood as president. The other directors of the company were and still are Alan Wood, jr., Charles Lukens, Thomas Wilkinson, and Jonathan R. Jones.

In politics Mr. Wood is a staunch Republican, and has always taken an active interest in the affairs of his party. He is a member of the following societies: American Society of Mining Engineers, Engineers' Club, Pennsylvania Genealogical Society, Pennsylvania Historical Society, Franklin Institute, Union League of Philadelphia, Art Club, the University Club, Manufacturers' Club, the Sons of the Revolution, and others.

On January 28, 1869, Mr. Wood married Mary, daughter of William Canby Biddle, a hardware merchant of Philadelphia. They have had nine children: Biddle, Helen B., Alan 3d, Howard, jr., Clement B., Owen B., died in infancy; Rachel B., Marion B., and Dorothy, died in infancy.

Mr. Wood devotes himself closely to the large and successful operations conducted by his company. He is active, industrious, energetic, possessing in a marked degree the qualities which enable him to direct in an effective manner considerable bodies of workmen, and to manage not only the wider movements, but the details of a difficult and complicated business. The rather remarkable success of the mills in his charge has been owing to the merits of their products, and the fact that they have never been allowed to decline.

ANTHONY H. SEIPT, of Skippack, is without question one of the best known and most widely respected business men in Montgomery county. He was engaged in the general merchandise business for many years, having been very successful, and held a high place in the mercantile world. He came from good old German ancestry—his paternal grandfather was a Schwenkfelder, who emigrated from Silesia to America, and was named David (Seibb) Seipt, who with his wife Judith, landed at Philadelphia, September 22, 1734, with a number of other Schwenkfelders. The following is a genealogical record, giving the names of his paternal forefathers: David (Seibb) Seipt, Caspar Seipt, Abraham Seipt and George Seipt. Anthony

H. Seipt, son of George Seipt, was born October 2, 1825; married Lydia, daughter of Abraham Detweiler, March 6, 1852. Children: Mary Ann, born October 29, 1853, died June 17, 1854; Emma Jane, born February 10, 1855, married to Dr. Samuel Wolfe, of Philadelphia; Manilius D., born May 31, 1860, unmarried. His wife Lydia died in Jacksonville, Fla., March 1, 1883. On November 20, 1888, he married Mrs. Mary Heckler.

Mr. Seipt was engaged in farming until 1847, when he removed to Elroy and took charge of a store he purchased. After remaining at Elroy three years, he purchased a store at Providence Square, and remained in business there four years, subsequently he bought a store at Skippack, where he conducted business for twenty-nine years, up to 1884, when he retired to private life. Mr. Seipt was president of the Perkiomen R. R. for twenty-one years, and also served as a director in several other roads. He has served as a director for a number of years in several of the largest banking institutions of the county. Since 1884 he has lived in Skippack, in retired life.

ABRAHAM HARLEY CASSEL, the founder of the Cassel Library and one of the most noted of the American antiquarians and collectors of rare and priceless books, pamphlets and documents, has a life history that is full of pathos and romantic incident. On the 21st of last September he celebrated the seventy-fifth anniversary of his life, and no doubt on that day he looked back over the three-quarters of a century that he has spent so busily on this sphere and to such good advantage, and could say, "What I have been enabled to accomplish in my chosen work is due solely to my own exertions, blessed by a divine providence that gave me strength and energy." There is not in history a more striking example of the self-made man than is found in this man. Many have come from lowliness and reaped garlands of fame on the battle-field and in the forum, both popular places that play on the patriotism and enthusiasm of the people, but there is little sympathy for the man who devotes his life to books and only when his life work has been accomplished and crowned with success, is he at last recognized as a great man and a hero, for it is only by the results that his stupendous and glorious work can be appreciated. The general on the field of battle is constantly encouraged by the huzzas of his soldiers and his fellow-countrymen as he gains victory after victory and climbs the ladder of fame; the statesman scores triumph after triumph with every new speech on every new topic, but the "book worm," the man of letters, the bibliophile, stands alone against the many. He is tolerated by the accounted wise, looked on with suspicion by the ignorant, and the daily, monthly, yearly triumphs he scores go by unnoticed until all at once it is discovered that without sword or tongue, a man has scored a great point in the world of letters and at once the honor and credit that have been denied when it might have been an encouragement to fresh exertions, is showered upon him; the people have at last come to realize that there is something beyond the beat of the drum and the bombast of the political platform. And so it was with Abraham Harley Cassel. Forbidden even to read a book by his stern parents, who exerted themselves to keep him from getting any education whatever, he showed a determination when still a child, that would have seemed wonderful

in one of much older years. There was an inward longing for knowledge that no parental reproof, no hardship imposed, was severe enough to quench, and under the most discouraging difficulties his studies were prosecuted and his love of books was nourished and he prepared for the great work of his life. And now at the sunset time of a long and industrious career, Abraham Cassel lives in peace and quietude, away from the tumult of business strife, happy in the love and respect of the literary world of his native country and the esteem of all who have had the good fortune to know him and call him friend.

Mr. Cassel is a descendant of Johannes Cassel, one of the original German Mennonite emigrants, who, in 1684, accepted the personal invitation of William Penn and came to this country and located in Pennsylvania, where they settled first at Germantown. Hubert Cassel, a nephew of Johannes, is the direct ancestor of Abraham. It is perfectly clear that our subject inherited his love of knowledge and literature from his maternal ancestry, for he is the great-great-grandson of Christopher Saur or Sower, who was a noted scholar and the first German printer of that name in Germantown, or so far as known of the Province. Peter Becker, also a prominent man and the first elder of the German Baptist church in America, was also his great-great-grandsire. His own parents were of that sturdy German yeomanry, who at that early time looked with suspicion and fear on anything of an educational character as something that was closely allied with the enemy of religion and Christianity. When Abraham Cassel was born, September 21, 1820, this feeling was deeply rooted in the bosoms of his parents and as he early showed an inclination for study and the pursuit of knowledge, every effort was made to crush that spirit out of him. In the process, his father came very near the verge of unnatural cruelty. The little lad was frail at birth and they feared that they would never rear him. At eight years of age he was taught to read by his sister, and when his father saw him take eagerly to books, he put him to work on the farm and caused him to perform such labor as was ill-fitted even for a strong boy, let alone one who was in delicate health. The parent was only doing his duty, *as he saw it*, and his severity was only the outcome of a natural desire to benefit his son, but his rigor in no small degree helped to make the student an invalid for life, while it stimulated rather than warped his ambition to obtain a good education. Long after the mistakes were seen and when the zealous youth had made way for the savant and literateur, those who first dreaded his desire for knowledge, showed him greatest homage for his triumphs. He became and is still the head man of his neighborhood, whose counsels in the Dunker church are always listened to and followed by his brethren, and who is looked upon as an authority on all business and worldly matters by his neighbors.

Mr. Cassel first saw the light of day at his father's farmhouse in Towamencin township, near Kulpsville, Montgomery county, and here he spent the first fourteen years of his life. His father, in 1835, bought the farm on the banks of Indian Creek, where our subject is now living in happy contentment, surrounded by many of the books and pamphlets he loves so well and which cost him so many years of labor. Six miles from the din and rattle of railroad traffic, in fact in a section of virgin husbandry, no one not acquainted would ever dream of looking there for one of the most complete and

rare collections of old English and German works of a theological, historical and scientific character. Yet here he lived and here he remained and prosecuted his life work, only leaving the farm long enough to travel in search of some rare book, newspaper, pamphlet or document of which he had heard and he often traveled many thousands of miles to secure the work he wanted. With the exception of the training in reading that he had received at the side of his elder sister's spinning wheel, the only educational advantage Mr. Cassel enjoyed was an attendance of six weeks at a pay school, and this was secured through the help of strangers. It appears that a Philadelphia gentleman, Isaac Wampole by name, Dr. Fronefield and others, hearing of his struggles for knowledge, ventured to talk with the boy's father and told him how wrong he was doing in not letting him go to school. He made excuses that he could not spare him and that he could not afford it. Then Mr. Wampole said, "Only give your consent and I will pay what it costs," but the father would not do so. Others also remonstrated with him until he got out of humor and said he meant to raise his children according to the dictates of his own conscience, but since it appeared to be everybody's business how he raised one, he guessed he would have to go to school, but he, the father, would, like Pilate, wash his hands of the whole matter and that he would be innocent if the education would prove the lad's ruin. Abraham had his first taste of knowledge and he worked hard on the farm in order to gain time to study. He tells many interesting anecdotes of his early struggles. He learned to write with a pen made from a chicken feather-quill, and as books were very scarce and costly he had great trouble to get fresh ones, and often he was obliged to keep them away from his father. He was denied a corner at the fire-place to read and when he stole off to his bed room and it was later learned that he was engaged in study there instead of being in bed he was bereft of light. In this dilemma he saved twenty-five cents, enough money to buy a box of matches, and a kind-hearted storekeeper for whom he did chores gave him a pound of candles, and then he was able to prosecute his studies. But soon other difficulties arose. But in this way he became a fine English and German scholar and was familiar with Greek and Latin. He never had any instruction of any account (certainly none outside of English), but he had the happy faculty of working out the difficult problems for himself, and his education, though obtained under such great difficulties, was thorough.

He worked on the farm with his father and at the tender age of fourteen years was placed in charge of the market wagon and every two weeks made a three days trip to Philadelphia with a one and sometimes a two-horse load of produce. At the age of eighteen years he was selected as the district school teacher. Before his time the schools in the farming district were kept open only a couple of months during the winter and the teachers were for the most part illiterate and incompetent. Abraham took charge of his school and immediately there was a change. He became known as a thorough instructor, and pupils came far and near to learn from him and his school was kept open six to eleven months out of every year. He continued as a teacher until 1848, when he went to work on his father's farm and continued there ever since. He made a good farmer and by his work on the old homestead amassed a competency. In 1843 Mr. Cassel married Elizabeth Rhoades, an

English member of the Society of Friends. They had eight children, one son and five daughters are still living, all married but one daughter.

Mr. Cassel's great life work is his rare library, and on this he began before he was ten years old, though, of course it is not to be supposed that he had, at that tender age, any idea of collecting a big library. Still his great thirst for knowledge and inherent love for books showed itself even then, for he worked at all sorts of odd chores for people who paid him, and he saved his small earnings and bought books. It was not until he began to teach school, however, that he really began to realize what an opportunity he had for making a collection of rare books. He was particularly interested in the history of his church and the people who settled his district and the German language. As it was customary in those days, and even up to very recent years, the country school teachers "boarded around" among the families of their pupils. That is, they would spend one night at one house and the next night at another and so on until the whole school term was finished. This custom gave Abraham a splendid opportunity to search the houses, and especially the garrets for old books and he secured many, especially rare Bibles and books that had been brought from Germany, and many of these books were very valuable and are not to be found in duplicate at any price. In this way he also learned where many other books were to be found and he secured them afterwards, often encountering much difficulty and expense. From this time on he gave all the time he could possibly spare to the collection of books and documents and often sacrificed the comfort of himself and family and deprived them of necessaries of life in order to gain his object. In this search for books he has traveled in all parts of the country. Many times he went on foot and covered every part of Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, Ohio and went west even beyond the Mississippi river. On one occasion he set out to trace certain works of which he had heard and was desirous of possessing, and when he returned home he had covered six thousand miles. Mr. Cassel had but one idea in getting together the works that formed his library and that was the desire to study. He gave the literary world a surprise when it became known that he had a collection of fifty thousand books, pamphlets and documents. Among this vast collection are to be found the most complete collection of the publications of Schwenkfeld, Ephrata, Sauer and Franklin, With the help of his library he aided his early friends, I. D. Rupp, the historian, and Watson, the annalist, greatly in getting together data for their works.

As stated before, Mr. Cassel's library, in its entirety, contains fifty thousand volumes. This includes bound books, pamphlets, documents, besides over one thousand specimens comprising complete sets of the principal American almanacs from 1714 to the present day. There were also many ancient magazines and early periodicals of Pennsylvania and American newspapers of the earliest days. The collection contained over sixty rare Bibles. One of these is a copy of King James' Bible, printed in 1611; another printed in the German language from wooden blocks at Zurich, Switzerland, is dated 1470. There is also a copy of the autograph edition of Luther's German Bible, which was printed in parts at Basel, dated 1523, 1524, 1526. The "Rival Bible," ordered by the Pope to counteract the effects of the Luther work, printed in 1537, the "Purgatory Bible" printed in 1670, the

"Curse Me God Bible," a very rare edition printed in 1604, are also in the collection. Two books that are bound in human skin, dated 1650, and a Gothic manuscript fourteen hundred years old are also found in the library. This, of course, only gives an idea of the way in which the earnest antiquarian went to work to accomplish his purpose. Having finished this collection, Mr. Cassel thought to dispose of it in a manner that would make it valuable to many generations. So he, in part, donated to the Brethren's Collegiate Institute, at Mount Morris, Illinois, about twenty-seven thousand books and documents, and to the Historical Society of Pennsylvania about three thousand valuable books and papers relating to the early history of this State. He also made very large donations to Ashland college, Ohio, and Bridgewater college, Virginia, and yet he has over eight thousand bound volumes and about sixteen thousand pamphlets and documents of diverse character at the old homestead.

One of the biographers said of him: "He is universally recognized as the historian of his church, which is that of the German Baptist or Dunker. For half a century he has been a wise counsellor in his church, and his decisions on important questions are accepted as final. He is the personification of benevolence, and has a gentleness of manner and kindliness of heart, which wins for him recognition among all classes of people, who find in him a worthy friend and charming companion. Crowning all his noble qualities, is the spirit of humility in all his daily acts. He has a certain, simple eloquence of speech, which is made impressive by his earnestness, and to which is lent a united charm by a slight German accent. He dresses in the plain habit of his brethren, and possesses a clean-cut face, which is lit up with intelligence and kindled with enthusiasm when he discourses on his favorite themes. It is one of the best evidences of the complete development of Mr. Cassel's mind and character, that he is held in the highest esteem by his prosaic neighbors, who care little for books but everything for the crops and for thrift and economy. This is partly due to the fact that he has thrived by 'holding the plow himself,' and has accumulated a competency, but the universal respect in which he is held by a large circle of acquaintances in all classes of society, is mainly due to his sincere and noble character. The atmosphere of piety pervading his home, the beautiful simplicity of his manners, the endurance of his friendship, and the story of his remarkable career have kindled a love for him which is not bounded by the county or the State, but which even extends to foreign lands."

JAMES ABRAHAM is among those who have turned their attention entirely and successfully to agricultural pursuits in the beautiful, wealthy and historic Schuylkill valley, where he owns and resides upon the old Abraham homestead, that has been in continuous possession of the family for the last two centuries. James Abraham, who bears the Christian name of his grandfather and also of his great-grandfather, is a son of Joseph and Ann (Davis) Abraham, and was born at what is now Merion or Abrams, in Upper Merion township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, February 7, 1824. The founder and original ancestor of the Abraham family in this county was the husband of Sarah Abraham, whose Christian name is supposed to have been Isaac—a

fact that is left in doubt by the want of some early family records. This Sarah Abraham and her husband came from Wales in 1682, and settled in Bucks county, where they were among the earliest pioneer settlers of Eastern Pennsylvania. Their son, James Abraham, senior, came to the site of Merion, in all probability as early as the beginning of the eighteenth century and built the old mansion house, still standing, whose roof has since sheltered seven generations of his descendants. His son, Isaac Abraham, married Dinah Harvard, and their son, James Abraham, junior, was born in 1751. He married Hannah George and succeeded his father in the ownership of the family mansion and homestead. He was an industrious farmer, and is beyond doubt, the James Abraham who was assessed in 1780 with one hundred and ninety acres of land and three horses and eight cows. He reared a family of sons and daughters, and his son, Joseph Abraham, was the father of the subject of this sketch.

Joseph Abraham was born December 31, 1788, and died March 25, 1850, aged sixty-two years. He succeeded his father as the owner of the homestead, and following the example of his ancestors, was a farmer by occupation. He was an active Democrat in the early days of the existence of that present great political party. He was reared a Baptist and died in the faith and teachings of that religious denomination. Joseph Abraham married Ann Davis, of Welsh descent, whose father, Benjamin Davis, was a member of the early settled and highly respected Davis family of Montgomery county. Mrs. Abraham was an amiable and industrious woman, and passed away from earth on March 30, 1873, when in the seventy-fourth year of her age. To Joseph and Ann Abraham was born a family of five sons and six daughters: Hannah, wife of James Shannon, of Norristown, Pa.; Sarah, who married Jonathan Phillips, of Upper Merion; James, whose name appears at the head of this brief sketch; Benjamin D., a farmer of Upper Merion township; Isaac G., who married Mary Wager, and went to Wayne county, Pa., in 1854; Thomas D., a paper manufacturer; Eliza, wife of Jonathan Supplee, of Upper Merion; Anna, married Owen Evans, a resident of Philadelphia; Matilda, who died in infancy; Emma, passed away when young; and Joseph, who died in infancy.

James Abraham grew to manhood on his father's farm, and received his education in the early common schools of his neighborhood. He assisted his father in the management and cultivation of the home farm until the death of the latter, and then succeeded him as owner of the ancestral home. His farm consists of eighty-seven acres of land in the most fertile part of the township. It lies adjoining Merion station, on the Philadelphia and Reading railroad, and two miles from Bridgeport. Here he has lived a long and quiet life, devoting his time to the prosecution of agricultural pursuits and the discharge of the duties of good citizenship.

On January 9, 1851, James Abraham married Susan Eastburn, who was a daughter of Benjamin Eastburn. She died August 10, 1876. Ten years later on December 17, 1885, he wedded Elizabeth Rambo, whose ancestors were among the pioneer settlers of the county. By his first marriage he had five children, of whom two died in infancy. The three that lived to maturity were two sons and a daughter: Martha, wife of Dr. James B. Walker; Joseph, and Benjamin Eastburn, who was named for Capt. Benjamin Eastburn of Revolutionary fame, and died in 1879.

In politics Mr. Abraham is a Democrat like his father and grandfather before him. He has served his township as school director for several years. He is a member of Merion Grange No. 112, Patrons of Husbandry. He takes delight in farming, has his work done well, and is honest, hospitable and industrious.

WILLIAM K. HIMMELWRIGHT, miller and farmer of Niantic, this county, is a son of John R. and Maria (Kile) Himmelwright, and was born June 22, 1860, near Niantic, in Douglas township, this county. The paternal great-grandfather of William Himmelwright was Philip Himmelwright, of German parents He was born about the year 1725, on a vessel coming up the Delaware river, on the voyage from the fatherland to the United States. His parents settled in what is now Germantown, and there Philip grew to manhood. He learned the trade of a shoemaker, and plied that trade there all his life. His death came of drowning in the Wissahickon, in 1798. He lived at Germantown during the Revolutionary war, and assisted in burying the fallen patriots, victims of the battle of Germantown. He married Hannah Dickerson, of Welsh nativity, and of the Society of Friends Their children were as follows: Joseph (grandfather), born in 1751, and died in 1823; David, born in 1754, and went to England when nineteen years of age; William, born in 1759, went West. One of his sons now lives near Pittsburg, Pennsylvania; Sarah, born in 1763, and died in 1854; John, born about 1765, lived and died at Germantown; Samuel, born in 1769, died in 1816; Charles, born in 1774, lived and died at Germantown; Mary, born in 1780, Isaac and Philip died young.

His paternal grandfather, Joseph Himmelwright, was a native of Bucks county, and passed all his life at Milford Square, where he owned a farm and a mill.

John R. Himmelwright, father, was born at Milford Square, in 1816, and died on June 12, 1894. During his earlier life he was engaged in the milling business at Milford Square, but later came to near Niantic and purchased a mill, the one now owned and operated by the subject of this sketch. The mill site and property purchased included a farm, upon which he resided the remainder of his life. He was a Republican, and a devout member of the Lutheran church, at Niantic, holding at different times the offices of trustee and elder. To his marriage with Maria Kile were born eight children: Elizabeth Bechtel, deceased; Charles, Isaac, James, John, Joseph, Harrison and William K.

William K. Himmelwright received such education as was afforded in the country schools of his district and Perkiomen seminary, was reared upon his father's farm and assisted upon the farm and in the mill until the latter's death, when he and his brother Joseph purchased in partnership, the homestead farm and mill, and he now lives upon it, engaged with his brother in operating the farm, saw and grist mill.

Mr. Himmelwright is a Republican, but has never been in any sense a seeker after office. He is a member of the Lutheran church, and for a number of years was a deacon and was tendered the office of trustee but refused to accept the proffered office.

He married, on November 20, 1880, Mary Hoffman, and six children bless their union: Olivia, James, Henry, John, Daniel, Elizabeth and Charles.

HON. I. ERB STEINER, justice of the peace of Rudy post office, is a young man who is rapidly winning his way to prominence in his neighborhood. His family are of the old Montgomery county stock, and have resided there for many generations. Squire Steiner is very popular in his neighborhood, and displays great earnestness for enterprise and progression in all public movements. His grandfather, George Steiner, was born in Berks county, Pa., in 1766. He owned and worked a very large farm all his life and was greatly revered in the community. He was an earnest member of the Lutheran church, and was a good Christian worker. In politics he was a Democrat. He died in 1822. Squire Steiner's father was Henry H. Steiner. He was educated in the public schools, learned the trade of a miller and followed it for two years. Then he went to farming in Limerick township. He removed to Upper Salford township in 1865. Like his paternal parent, he believed in the doctrines of the Democracy. He has always been a member of the Lutheran church and an active worker, having been deacon, elder, and holding other church offices and encouraged Sunday-schools. He was the father of six children, as follows: John, Henry, Samuel, Elizabeth, now Mrs. William Walford; Levina and I. Erb. He died April 10, 1890.

Squire Steiner is the son of Henry and Levina (nee Erb) Steiner, and was born in Frederick township on May 23, 1862. He went through the public schools and then spent two terms in Ursinus college. He was a close student, and, on leaving college, became a teacher. He has been a teacher now for fifteen years and is still presiding over a large school and holding the confidence of the school directors and the people. Mr. Steiner resides in a beautiful home of his own at Salford station, Rudy P. O., and is the central figure in a beautiful home circle.

He has always been a hard worker in the ranks of the Democratic party and was elected justice of the peace in 1891. He is a member of the Lutheran church and is secretary of the board of the trustees, and has been superintendent of the Sunday-school for nine years.

On May 7, 1885, he married Annie R., daughter of Jesse Zepp, of Sumneytown. Four children have blessed their union: Henry, aged nine; Francis, aged six; Alice, aged four; and John, aged two.

HIRAM W. RITTER, M. D., of Souderton, has been practicing medicine since 1877, and for the last four years has been located at his present home, where he has become very popular and successful in his professional career. He is a native of Berks county and is a descendant of German ancestors, some of whom emigrated to America prior to the Revolution. He was born at Boyertown, on the twenty-second of December, 1853, and is the eldest child of Louis and Levina (Worman) Ritter. His grandfather Ritter was the owner of a very large farm. He was a Democrat and an active member of the Lutheran church. He was the father of nine children: Joseph, deceased; Daniel, Henry, deceased; John, deceased; George, Sallie, wife of Daniel Moyer; Rebecca, Louis and Esther. He was married twice, and the last two children are by his second wife.

Louis Ritter was born at Boyertown on the twenty-second of February, 1824. He was given a good common school education and then adopted farming. He owned a

very large farm in Berks county and worked it all his life. In politics he was a Democrat, and in religion a member and elder of the Lutheran church. He was the father of four children: Dr. Hiram W., Rosey, who married Levi Lefever; Calvin and Thomas, who died young. Mr. Ritter died on February 22, 1866, at the exact age of forty-two years.

Dr. Ritter was brought up in Berks county on his father's farm, and secured the rudiments of his education in the common schools of his township in which he lived. He then attended the Boyertown seminary for several years, and, on leaving that institution of learning, took up the study of medicine under Dr. T. Z. B. Rhoads, of Boyertown. He attended the lectures at Jefferson college, and graduated with honor from that institution in 1877. For one year after graduating he practiced medicine with Dr. Rhoads, and then located in Perkasie, Bucks county, where he remained thirteen years and built up a large practice. He then came to Souderton, where he has remained ever since, and where he is regarded with the greatest respect by everybody, and where he has found a large and splendid field for the practice of his profession.

Dr. Ritter is an active member of the Reformed church, and takes a deep interest in church work. He is a Democrat in politics, but does not take more interest than the average citizen, satisfied simply to vote for the best interests of local, State and national government, according to the principles in which he believes.

On September 1, 1881, Dr. Ritter and Ida N., daughter of Jacob Kehm, were married. Six children have come to bless this union: Miriam, the eldest, was born July 4, 1882; Jacob C., born November 13, 1883; Blanche, born September 11, 1885, and died February 12, 1887; Florence L., born September 3, 1887; Elura May, born June 17, 1889; and Paul R., born August 21, 1891.

PROF. JOSEPH KULP GOTWALS, A. M., the popular and efficient superintendent of the Norristown public schools, is a son of Joseph and Anna (Kulp) Gotwals, and was born in Lower Providence township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, October 15, 1832. The family of which Prof. Gotwals is a worthy scion, is of German lineage, and the name was originally spelled Gotwalds, but it is thought was changed by the grandfather to the present form, Gotwals. The paternal grandfather of our subject was Henry Gotwals, who was a prosperous farmer of Upper Providence township, this county, and an active worker in the Mennonite church. His marriage with Elizabeth Funk resulted in an issue of six children: Adam, John, Christian, Henry, Elizabeth, and Catharine.

Joseph Gotwals (father), was a native of Montgomery county, born in Upper Providence township, April 10, 1789, and died in Lower Providence township on April 14, 1871. He, following in the footsteps of his ancestors, was a tiller of the soil, a member the Mennonite church and a Democrat in politics. He married Anna Kulp, who became the mother of twelve children: Henry, died in infancy; Martin, Margaret, deceased, was the wife of Lewis Rhodes; Esther, died in 1894; Sarah, deceased, was the consort of Jonah L. Fudge; Anna, Elizabeth, was the wife of John B. Horn, and is now dead; Joseph K., subject; Isaac, Charlotte, deceased, was the wife of

John Shearer; Roger D. and Jane, who was married to Jesse Z. Reimer.

Professor Gotwals attended the public schools of Lower Providence township until fifteen years of age. At the expiration of this time, he entered the private school of Rev. H. S. Rodenbach, under whose tutilage he studied four consecutive winter terms. He was a diligent student and an apt pupil, and at the early age of nineteen years, he had made such rapid progress that he passed a creditable teacher's examination, and was elected as a teacher in the public schools of Schuylkill county, this State. He taught this term successfully and then entered the Millersville State Normal school. Here, however, he remained but a short time until he again engaged in teaching. He taught five years in Lower Providence township, this county, and in 1859, went to Orwigsburg, Schuylkill county, this State, where he reviewed the higher branches under the direction of Professor Schneider, who was conducting a private school, and at the same time assisted the professor, instructing in the intermediate grades. There he remained about one and a half years. In 1860 he went to Norristown and was elected principal of the Cherry street school. In 1865 he was elected principal of the boys' high school. He held this position until 1872, when he was made superintendent of the entire borough schools, which responsible position he has since ably and efficiently filled.

Under the wise supervision of Prof. Gotwals, the schools have been thoroughly organized, employing a corps of sixty-six competent teachers. The most modern methods of instruction have been introduced, and to-day the work done in these schools will compare favorably with the schools of any similar borough or city in the State. In recognition of Prof. Gotwals' long service as a teacher and his superior educational attainments, Franklin and Marshall college conferred upon him the honorary degree of Master of Arts in 1872. Since that time he has been an elder in the First Presbyterian church of Norristown.

Prof. Gotwals and Jennie, a daughter of Dr. James Galbraith, of Perry county, were happily married. The progeny of this marriage was two daughters: Jennie, who died in infancy; and Anna, the wife of Rev. R. H. Taylor, a prominent Presbyterian minister.

GEORGE D. ALDERFER, member of the Harleysville school board, and manager of the Line Lexington Insurance company, is well known throughout Montgomery county as a progressive citizen and a man of broad gauge principles and sound intellectual attainments. He is a native of this county, and was born on a farm in Lower Salford township, on the 18th of January, 1836. He is a son of Isaac O. and Mary (Delp) Alderfer, and is of American parentage and German ancestry. His grandfather was Isaac Alderfer, who was raised on a farm and tilled the soil with profit all his life. He was a member and an earnest Christian worker in the Mennonite church, and was highly respected by all who knew him. He married Elizabeth Oberholtzer, of the same county, and they had six children: Abraham, Henry, Elizabeth, Isaac, Mary and Annie. Mr. Alderfer's father was born in December, 1808, and was sent to the public schools to secure the rudiments of an education. He then went to work on his father's farm and later farmed on his own account, continuing in this avocation

all his life. He was a Republican in political belief, was a strong party leader in his district, and for many years held the position of assessor. He was married to Mary Delp in 1832, and their union was productive of a family of four children: George D., Susan, who married George R. Landis, now deceased; and Mary, who was the wife of M. A. Overhalt, also deceased; and Isaac, who died in November, 1868.

George D. Alderfer, of whom this sketch principally treats, was given every possible advantage for gaining a sound education, and he made the best of his opportunities. He first attended the common schools of his district and then spent three terms at Kulpsville academy. He then attended the Pottstown seminary for one term and graduated at the age of twenty-one years. On finishing his scholastic course, he determined on being a teacher, and had no difficulty in securing the principalship of a school at Lower Salford. He taught for nineteen years and combined the pedagogic career with farming. He is at present a director of the Schwenksville National bank, holding that position since 1880, and is also manager of the Line Lexington Insurance company. In politics Mr. Alderfer followed in the footsteps of his father and became one of the most influential Republican leaders in his district. He is a member of the Republican county committee, has been school director of the Harleysville public schools for twenty years, and has been a justice of the peace since 1872. In educational matters he has always taken a leading part, and his opinions are always treated with the greatest respect.

On March 13, 1862, Mr. Alderfer was united in marriage to Mary, daughter of Garrett Clements, of Lower Salford, and to this couple were born six children: Alvin, born November 9, 1869; Garrett, born September 4, 1871, now dead; Lizzie, born June 24, 1873, who became the wife of Romanus H. Allebach; Anna Marie, deceased; George, born March 8, 1877; and Harry, born April 23, 1881.

AUGUSTUS H. SMITH, the oldest and most prominent resident and merchant of Salfordville, Pa., was born on August 26, 1836, and is a son of Frederick K. and Mary (Hiltebeitel) Smith. He can boast of a long line of honored American ancestry, his forefathers having been among the early settlers of the county, and having taken prominent parts in all its public affairs. Mr. Smith himself has made his own way in the world, and from an errand boy in a store he rose to become a proprietor, and for many years past he has been prosperous. His paternal grandfather was Jacob Smith, who was a farmer, and owned a very large and fertile tract of land. In politics Jacob was a Democrat, and was a zealous worker in the party ranks. He resided in Upper Salford, and was a consistent, upright Christian, and a constant attendant at the Reformed church of that place. He was married to Kate, daughter of Jacob Kline, of Upper Salford, and they had seven children: Frederick, Jacob, John, Valentine, deceased; Samuel K., George and Seth H. He died in 1823.

Frederick, the oldest son and father of Augustus, was born on March 1, 1801. He was a shoemaker by trade, and was a highly respected member of the community. He was a staunch defender of the principles of the Democratic party, and worked hard in the interest of his party ticket. He was very popular in political circles, and was

elected justice of the peace, a position he held for over forty years. Like the rest of the family, he was a member of the Reformed church. He married Mary Hiltebeitel, and their union bore fruit in twelve children: Frederick, deceased; William H., Jacob, deceased; Hannah, Daniel, Augustus, Valentine, Anna, George, John, Benjamin F. and Mary E. He died April 28, 1873.

Augustus H. Smith was sent to the common schools of the vicinity, but at the tender age of eleven years was put to work in a store. He soon became clerk and remained there for nine years, giving entire satisfaction to his employer, and getting a perfect knowledge of the business. In 1856 he and his brother started a general store at Salfordville, under the firm name of Smith and Brothers. This afterwards became Smith and Shoemaker, and then Smith and Gable, his partner being his brother-in-law, Henry R. Gable. He has a large store and carries a general line, and the business has always been very profitable. Politically Mr. Smith is a Republican, and he has been the postmaster at Salfordville continuously ever since 1863. He is a member of the Reformed church, and a very active worker, having been secretary and treasurer for twenty-five years.

He was married to Elizabeth, daughter of Jonas Shoemaker, on August 2, 1862, and they have reared three children: Addie, Mahlon and Flora. Mahlon died when twelve years of age.

CAPTAIN HENRY H. FETTEROLF, the subject of this brief sketch, widely and favorably known as an upright citizen, and ranking high as a successful agriculturist, owns and manages the farm in Collegeville, Montgomery county from which was taken the land on which Trinity Reformed Church, Ursinus College, the president's house, and a number of fine private residences of the village, are now located.

Mr. Fetterolf is the eldest son of the late Gideon and Elizabeth Fetterolf, and maternal grandson of the late Mennonite bishop, John Hunsicker, and was born in Perkiomen township, September 24, 1839, and spent the earlier years of his life on his father's farm, near Graters Ford, doing what is still generally done in similar circumstances, that is, worked on the farm in summer and attended public schools in the winter. As he was growing up towards manhood, and desiring a better education than the public schools afforded, he became a student of Freeland Seminary, now Ursinus College, and attended the same until fully qualified to be a teacher in the public schools of the county. He followed the calling of teacher during four consecuterms till the breaking out of the late Civil war.

When the country called for firm and brave men to preserve her greatly imperiled life and the honor of "the dear old flag," Mr. Fetterolf's patriotism at once constrained him to become a soldier in the Union army, and, therefore he enlisted August 13, 1862, in Co. I, 129th Pennsylvania volunteers, and for soldierly bearing in the service, he was successively promoted orderly sergeant and first lieutenant, and it was while lieutenant of Co. I, he actively participated in the battles of Fredericksburg and Chancellorsville. At the expiration of the time for which he enlisted, he was honorably discharged May 18, 1863, at Harrisburg, from the Federal service.

After being home some time, and the war for the Union not yet ended, he again offered his services to his country, and recruited Co. C, 34th regiment Pennsylvania militia, of which he became the commissioned captain.

The war being over, he and his brother, Adam H. Fetterolf, now president of Girard College, became the lessees of the popular and flourishing boarding school, Freeland Seminary, which they successfully conducted for a term of years, until it was sold to representatives of the Reformed (German) Church.

January 1st, 1865, Mr. Fetterolf married Elizabeth, daughter of farmer Charles Garber, of Black Rock, this county, and unto them were born three children, two daughters and one son, viz: Adah, widow of Horace F. Miller; Harriet and Roscoe Conkling.

In politics Mr. Fetterolf has been a staunch life-long Republican, and has the high honor of being the youngest man in the history of the county nominated for the office of prothonotary, being only twenty-five years of age when made the nominee of his party.

In church affiliations Mr. Fetterolf is a member of Trinity Reformed Church, Collegeville, the Rev. J. H. Hendricks, pastor, since 1858, of which he has been a trustee and deacon for a number of years. He was also a superintendent of the widely known Garwood Sunday school for ten years, while residing near Black Rock.

Mr. Fetterolf holds office in a number of organizations in the community. He is a school director of the Trappe independent district; a director of the Schwenksville National bank; a member of the board of managers of the Perkiomen and Sumneytown Turnpike company; a member of the George B. McClellan Post, G. A. R., No. 515; a member of Washington Camp No. 267, Patriotic Order Sons of America; and at present, Master Keystone Grange, No. 2, Patrons of Husbandry.

The Fetterolf family is of German descent. Gideon, the father of the subject of this sketch, was one of a large family born in Berks county, but early in life came to Montgomery county, where he spent the balance of his life, dying at his home in Collegeville, April 22, 1894, aged eighty-seven years, seven months, twenty days. Gideon Fetterolf was twice married, his second wife, Esther, being the daughter of the late Rev. Abraham Hunsicker; by his first marriage he was the father of Susan, wife of Abraham R. Tyson, Royers Ford; Sarah, wife of Abraham K. Grimley, Norristown; John, deceased; Henry H., of Collegeville; Adam H., President of Girard College, Philadelphia. By his second marriage he was the father of Abraham D., Collegeville, chief clerk of the House of Representatives; Gideon, deceased; Andrew Curtin, shipper in New York City; Horace G., with J. B. Lippincott Co., Philadelphia. Father Fetterolf, as he was familarly called in the later years of his life, was originally a member of the Mennonite Church, but subsequently became one of the incorporators of what is now known as Trinity Reformed Church, at Collegeville, Pa., in whose full fellowship and communion he died, having served in it many years as trustee and elder.

ALFRED WILKINSON, an active business man and a well known engineer and inventor of Norristown, is a son of Joseph and Margaret (Lintott) Wilkinson, and

Alfred Dickinson. M. E.

was born at Stockport, Cheshire, England, May 17, 1845. His paternal grandfather, Dr. William Wilkinson, was a minister and colporteur in the Baptist church at Stockport, England, where he was president of the Baptist Union society, composed of clergymen. He was a man of high and honorable standing, and served as high mayor of his native city of Stockport, and was a magistrate for over half a century. He was a Free Mason and a man of education, culture and ability. He died in 1884, at the ripe old age of ninety-six years. He married Elizabeth Wilkinson, who passed away at eighty-four years, in 1872. Dr. and Mrs. Wilkinson had a family of twelve children: Joseph, (father); James, John, Daniel, Reuben, Sarah, deceased; Ann, Lizzie, Mary, and three who died in early infancy. Joseph Wilkinson was born in 1806, and received his education with a view of fitting for the ministry of the Baptist church, but before reaching his majority he abandoned the idea of becoming a clergyman and turned his attention to mechanical pursuits, in which he soon became an expert. In 1856 he came to South New Market, New Hampshire, where he patented the "America" cook stove, which he had invented in England. Three years later he made a visit to England and brought back with him his wife and two children. He was a fine engineer and mechanic, and a meritorious inventor. He invented and patented an automatic oil cup for steam engines, which was of such value and utility that it soon went into use in every civilized country and on all steam sailing vessels. He died at Boston, Massachusetts, where he was engaged in the manufacture of his oil cup. His death occurred in the fall of 1888, when in the eighty-second year of his age. He was a Republican in politics, served as a private messenger to President Lincoln during the late war, and afterwards wrote and published a work entitled "Views on the War by a Soldier," which had a large sale. He took an active part in forming Grand Army Posts in the East after the close of the war. He was a Baptist, contributed articles to religious and other journals, and in many and various ways was a useful man. He married Margaret Wilkinson, who was a daughter of Richard Lintott, of England, and lived to reach her seventy-eighth year, dying in August, 1888. They had two children: Alfred and Edwin.

Alfred Wilkinson received his education at Stockport, England, and in Philadelphia, and after coming to this country, in 1859, completed learning the trade of engineer. In 1861 he went on the United States gunboat *Octorora*, as a yeoman or engineer's clerk. He served at New Orleans under Farragut, was made third assistant engineer and ordered to the *Chickasaw*, where, in 1864, he was promoted to second assistant engineer for meritorious service. He resigned at New Orleans on December 9, 1886, and returning home, became mechanical engineer at the Port Richmond shops of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad company. Two years later he opened an office at Philadelphia for steam engineering which he conducted up to 1891, when he came to Norristown and organized a stock company for the manufacture of the Wilkinson automatic stoker, which he had invented and patented some time previously. The company built a plant sixty by one hundred and twenty feet in dimensions at Bridgeport, which has a present capacity of one automatic stoker machine per day. They employ forty men, and are shipping these machines to every part of the coun-

try. They shipped two of them to ex-President Harrison, at Terre Haute, Indiana. The automatic stoker is a machine that feeds furnaces and cleans them of their ashes. The Baldwin Locomotive works use seventeen of them, which feed and clean seventeen furnaces, and only require the attention and time of one hand. A wide field lies before this company in the future, and already the capacity of its plant is taxed to fill the orders now sent in for stokers. Mr. Wilkinson is general manager of the works and treasurer of the company. He has also been active in making inventions in steam machinery. In 1879 he invented a flexible metallic stuffing box to take the place of packing piston rods; in 1862 he patented the "Land Engine Ejector Condensor" for steam engines; in 1886 he patented a gas consuming bridge-wall for boiler furnaces, and in 1889 invented a balance slide valve for steam engines. Mr. Wilkinson has had but little time to contribute articles to the press or mechanical journals upon his special field of work, yet in 1862 he issued a work entitled "Steam Economy," which was a series of tests made by him as consulting engineer. It was a work of one hundred and fifty-four pages, eight by ten inches each, and had a rapid sale until the edition was exhausted. He is a member of the Franklin Institute, American Society of Mechanical Engineers, and the Manufacturers' Club of Philadelphia.

On April 22, 1866, Mr. Wilkinson was united in marriage with Mary J. Sykes, a daughter of William Sykes, of Chester City, Delaware county. To their union have been born two children: Emma S., born April 4, 1869; and Margaret Ellen, born March 16, 1871, and died in March, 1874.

In political opinion Mr. Wilkinson is a Republican. In 1866 he was a candidate for chief engineer of the city water works, but was defeated by a combine. He is a member of the Baptist church of Philadelphia, has served two years as a Sunday-school superintendent, and is a member of the Christian Endeavor Society of Philadelphia. He is a Templar Mason, being a member of Roxboro Lodge No. 135, Free and Accepted Masons; Jerusalem Chapter No. 3, Royal Arch Masons; and Corinthian Commandery No. 32, Knights Templar.

WILLIAM STAHLER, proprietor of the leading drug store in Norristown, and a well known business man of eastern Pennsylvania, was born in Milford township, Lehigh county, Pennsylvania, February 5, 1826, and is a son of Elias and Catharine Stahler, both born in Lehigh county. As indicated by the name, the Stahlers are of German extraction, the emigrant ancestor being one of the earliest settlers in Lehigh county. Mr. Stahler received a good common school education, and at the age of sixteen entered a drug store in the city of Philadelphia and began learning the business with which his name has ever since been so prominently identified. In 1856 he came to Norristown and purchased an apothecary shop which had been established on Main street by Dr. M. G. Kerr and Amos W. Bertolet. This establishment he conducted until 1876, building up meanwhile a large drug trade. In the latter year he removed to the large building, now known as "The Central Drug Store," at the corner of Main and Swede streets, which he had purchased during the previous year. This building had been erected in 1840 by David E.

Wood & Co., for a dry goods house, and after its purchase by Mr. Stahler, he proceeded to add a fourth story with mansard roof, placed in the first story a new and expensive iron front, and paved the two sidewalks with heavy flagstones. The ground floor is laid in white marble and the room is furnished with two counters, supporting six plate glass show cases, between each of which the counter is laid with polished Italian marble. The rear is divided into prescription room, office and packing department, while the second story is fitted up as a complete laboratory for compounding drugs and medicine.

The total cost of the building and improvements aggregated twenty-five thousand dollars, and it is now one of the finest and best appointed drug houses in the Keystone State, and stands as a monument to the ability and energy of its proprietor. In addition to his immense drug trade, which is conducted wholesale and retail, and is probably one of the largest in eastern Pennsylvania outside of Philadelphia, Mr. Stahler has been for twenty-five years the agent in Norristown for E. T. Dupont de Nemours & Co., powder dealers, of Wilmington, Delaware, and is also agent for the Repauno Chemical Company, of the same city.

In 1869 Mr. Stahler erected his present residence, on a lot previously purchased, on DeKalb street, below Airy. It is a large and handsome brick structure, with bay windows and beautiful grounds, and with its fine appointments and numerous appurtenances, constitutes one of the most desirable homes in Norristown. On the rear of the lot, facing Green street, he has also built a convenient and ornamental carriage house, with stables attached, the whole building faced with hewn sandstone.

Politically Mr. Stahler adheres to the Democratic party, but has never taken an active part in public affairs, preferring to devote his attention strictly to the business in which he has been so successful. In 1860 he was made a member of the town council of Norristown and served in that capacity for six years, since which he has declined to have his name used as a candidate for any official position. He is a member of Trinity Lutheran church, and has served his denomination in various places of trust and responsibility for many years, having been treasurer for nearly a quarter of a century. For twenty years he has been a director of the Montgomery bank, and occupies the same relation to the Montgomery Trust company. He is a member of Charity Lodge No. 190, Free and Accepted Masons; Norristown Chapter No. 190, Royal Arch Masons; Hutchinson Commandery No. 32, Knights Templar; and of Montgomery Lodge No. 57, Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

On June 3, 1856, Mr. Stahler was married to Savilla Eschbach, of Norristown, and to this union were born three sons: Eugene A., born in 1857, married Ella Filbert, of the city of Philadelphia, and is now engaged in the drug business at Bridgeport, this county; William E., born in 1858, educated in Pennsylvania college and Gettysburg seminary, married Florence Allen, of Virginia, and is now a minister of the Lutheran church, located at Lebanon, Pennsylvania; and Harry Lincoln, whose natal day was the same as President Lincoln's first election, and who was graduated from the Pennsylvania college in 1882, and is now associated with his father in the wholesale and retail drug business at Norristown.

During the summer of 1895, Mr. Stahler, in conjunction with his son, Rev. William E. Stahler, made an extended tour of

Europe and the Holy Land, from which he derived both profit and pleasure. The itinerary included all the important countries and capitals of the continent, places of historical, religious and archæological interest on the Mediterranean Sea and the modern scenes of unparalleled interest centering about Palestine and the Nile. Besides being an excellent business man and a good citizen, Mr. Stahler proved himself an equally good tourist and traveler, keen and observant of every significant detail affecting present European life. He is to be congratulated that toward the evening of a busy life, he has been enabled to calmly view the field of a past activity out of whose throes all that is germinal in to-day's civilization, religion, literature civic and social life, was born.

DR. V. Z. KEELER, one of the widest known and most prominent physicians of Montgomery county, comes from one of the oldest families in this part of the State. His paternal grandfather was born at Salford Station, in the year 1806, was a farmer throughout his career, and died at the age of seventy-eight years. He had two farms, one of one hundred and twenty acres, and the other one hundred acres. He also ran a large grist mill at Salford Station, for over fifty years. He was an active Republican, and also a member of the Old Goshenhoppen Church, serving in the latter as a deacon, and an elder for many years. Six children were born to him. They are: Mrs. Boyer, Mrs. Hillegas, Henry, Sally, John and Caroline. The latter was drowned in the mill race at the age of five years. Dr. Keeler's father was born December 6, 1830.

He was sent to the public schools, and afterward to Washington Hall and Freeland Seminary (now Ursinus College), for a period of five years

At the age of eighteen he began to read medicine with Dr. Geiger, and afterwards attended Jefferson Medical college, from which he was graduated in 1852. He opened an office in Harleysville, and has been practicing there ever since. He is a very well known physician and has been the preceptor of no less than twenty-one young physicians. In politics he is a Democrat, and in religious belief is an active member of the Reformed church. He married Sallie Ziegler, who is descended from one of the old county families. Eight children have been born to this couple. They are: Drs. V. Z., and J. R., Mrs. Kate Souder, Richard, Allen, Mrs. Sarah Leidy, Harry and Harvey.

Such is the stock from which Dr. V. Z. Keeler springs. He was born at Harleysville, January 30, 1858. He was educated in the the public schools, and for two years attended Brunner's Academy. For three years he attended Washington Hall, and then read medicine with his father. Graduating from Jefferson college in 1880 he went back to Harleysville and began the practice of his profession with Dr. Groff. At the end of three years he left Dr. Groff, and in 1888 formed a partnership with Dr. J. W. Groff, son of his former partner. This latter partnership has existed ever since, and they have built up a very large and lucrative practice.

Dr. Keeler is a Democrat, like his ancestors, and takes a very active interest in local politics. He is a member of the Reformed church, and is an earnest worker in the congregation, being superintendent of the Union Sunday school for over six

years. He is also president of the Beneficial Society.

On May 10, 1881, Dr. Keeler married Alice G. Raudenbush, daughter of Charles S. Raudenbush. They have an interesting family of three children, though four were born to them: Howard was born February 24, 1882; Charles R. was born March 21, 1884 and died March 27, 1885; Russel was born May 12, 1889, and Harold was born February 27, 1894.

JOHN P. HILLEGAS, M. D., of 1617 West Dauphin street, Philadelphia, is a descendant of the old Montgomery family of that name, and is at present a rising general practitioner and eye and ear specialist. He is a native of Montgomery county, and is the second son of Dr. John G. and Catharine (Ziegler) Hillegas, and was born at the old homestead in Upper Hanover township, near Pennsburg, on the second of March, 1866. The ancestral history of Dr. Hillegas is given more fully in the sketch of his father, that appears elsewhere in this volume.

Dr. John P. Hillegas secured his early education at the Perkiomen Seminary, and afterward attended the Washington Hall Collegiate Institute at Trappe, Pa. Like his brothers he showed a decided preference for his father's profession and the latter became his preceptor while he read for college. In the fall of 1883, he entered the University of Pennsylvania, and graduated with high honor from that institution in 1886, after taking a three years' full course. Having received his diploma, Dr. Hillegas immediately returned to Pennsburg and entered upon the active practice of his profession. His skill and high attainments met with ready recognition, and he was soon in the enjoyment of a large and well established practice. Being of an ambitious and progressive temperament, however, this field did not seem to offer the opportunities he desired, and he looked for a location that would give him a wider scope. This he found in Philadelphia, where he removed in the fall of 1893, and located at 1617 West Dauphin street. On locating in Philadelphia, Dr. Hillegas took up the special practice on the eye and ear, and became the assistant of that eminent eye specialist, Prof. L. Webster Fox, of 1304 Walnut street, and was afterwards appointed as one of the Dispensary Staff in the Opthalmological Department of the Medico-Chirurgical Hospital.

Dr. Hillegas was married to Minnie, only daughter of D. S. Kern, of Pennsburg, and this union has been blessed by three children. Leroy Agnew, Alda and Glenna Marie. He is a member of Meridian Sun Lodge No. 158, Free and Accepted Masons, of Philadelphia, and of the Reformed church. He is also a member of the Knights of the Golden Eagle No. 298, of East Greenville, and of Victory Lodge No. 294, I. O. O. F., of Philadelphia.

LEWIS G. STRITZINGER, a well known citizen and leading confectioner and caterer of Norristown, was born on September 7, 1863, and is a son of F. G. and Anna C. (Derwichter) Stritzinger. He was brought up in his native town, and after a preliminary preparation in the public schools, attended the Allentown Business college, at which institution he completed the regular course of business and commercial training. Shortly after

leaving school he learned the trade of baker, and continued to assist his father in that business for several years. For a period of two years subsequent to this, he was engaged in the retail confectionery and baking business at Wayne, Pennsylvania, where he was well and favorably known. At the expiration of this time he returned to Norristown, and since 1889 has had full charge of the present confectionery and catering establishment, located at the corner of Main and Cherry streets, Norristown.

Mr. Stritzinger is a young man of marked activity and promise. He votes the Republican ticket, takes a commendable interest in the municipal affairs of Norristown, and is prominent in fraternal circles. He is a member of Charity Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons; Norristown Chapter, Royal Arch Masons; Hutchinson Commandery, Knights Templar, and Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Curtis Lodge, of Norristown.

On May 14, 1885, Mr. Stritzinger was joined in the bonds of matrimony with S. Ella Kneas, a daughter of John Kneas, a grocer of Norristown. Their family consists of three children: Raymond K. and Mary Lewanna and F. G. the third. In his religious views Mr. Stritzinger adheres to the Evangelical church of Norristown.

JAMES WOOD HARRY, a thoroughly qualified and leading druggist of Conshohocken, is a son of Benjamin and Lydia (Wood) Harry, and was born at Conshohocken, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, January 26, 1844. His paternal grandfather, David Harry, was of Welsh descent, and owned a farm of one hundred acres, on which the heart of Conshohocken was afterwards laid out. His possessions lay along what is now Fayette street. He also owned a grist mill on the site of the Albion Print works, and was among the first settlers on the site of Conshohocken. He was a Federalist in politics and a Friend in religion. He was a man of means for his day and married Ann Davis. He died in 1851, aged eighty years, and his wife passed away some years subsequent. Their children, three in number, were: Benjamin, Reese and Mary Yerkes. Benjamin Harry was born in May, 1809, and died in 1889. He received an ordinary English education and was connected with his father in operating the mill until the death of the latter. After the death of his father he was engaged in brick-making and in the flour and feed business in the old Temperance Hall until 1850. He was a Whig, served as one of the first burgesses of the borough, and was elected several times a justice of the peace, but would never lift his commission. He was a member of Plymouth Friends' Meeting, and helped to operate the "underground railroad" during the days of slavery. He always took an interest in the building and loan associations of his borough, or in any other enterprise calculated to benefit Conshohocken. He married Lydia Wood, whose father was James Wood, of Conshohocken. Mrs. Harry lived to be seventy-seven years of age, dying in 1891. Mr. and Mrs. Harry reared a family of five sons and two daughters: David, William, deceased; James W., Winfield Scott, John W., Anna and Mary.

James Wood Harry received his elementary education in the public and private schools of his native town, and then took a full academic course at Prof. John W. Loch's school on Airy street, at Norristown.

At the close of his school days he entered the Philadelphia college of pharmacy, from which he was graduated in the class of 1865. Returning to Philadelphia, he purchased his brother David's drug store on Fayette street, where he did a good business until 1889, when he disposed of his store and stock. He was variously engaged up to 1894, in which year he opened his present drug house at First avenue and Fayette street. He does a general drug and prescription business, and handles paints, oils, glass, paper and other articles. He has a good trade and aims to meet the wants of his patrons. In addition to the drug business he has been interested in several home enterprises. He helped organize the Conshohocken Tube company, of which he was secretary until 1895, when he parted with all of his stock in that organization. He has been manager of the telephone station and its branches at Conshohocken ever since its establishment.

On April 2, 1873, Mr. Harry wedded Elizabeth Maxwell, whose father, Hamilton Maxwell, was a former cotton manufacturer of Conshohocken. Mr. and Mrs. Harry have two children: Howard and Maxwell.

Mr. Harry is a charter member and the second oldest living past master of Fritz Lodge No. 420, Free and Accepted Masons. He is a Republican in politics, was burgess for one term, and served as postmaster of Conshohocken from 1865 to 1873, under commissions issued by Presidents Lincoln and Grant.

REV. WILLIAM B. WERNER, pastor of the Reformed churches of Schwenksville and Limerick Square, is a son of Jonas and Abigail (Bauscher) Werner, and was born in Albany township, Berks county, Pennsylvania, December 7, 1862. His paternal grandfather, John Werner, was of German origin, and resided in Schuylkill county, where he married and reared a family. His son, Jonas Werner, was born October 21, 1824, learned the trade of tailor with Isaac Woomer, of Sternsville, Lehigh county, and removed to Albany township, Berks county, in which he followed tailoring and farming. He owned a farm of one hundred and sixty acres of good land, and died February 23, 1893. He was an Odd Fellow, a Democrat, and a member of the Reformed church, in which he had served as a deacon and as an elder for many years before his death. He married Malinda Woomer, who was a sister to Isaac Woomer, and passed away April 14, 1857, leaving three children: Mary A., wife of Benjamin Hamm, of Allentown, Lehigh county; Jaenette, who married John Miller, of Schuylkill county; and James A., a graduate of Kutztown State Normal school, and now a farmer of Carbon county. After his first wife's death, Mr. Werner wedded Abigail Bauscher, who is now in the seventieth year of her age, and whose father was Christian Bauscher, who was an extensive farmer of Albany township, Berks county. By his second marriage Mr. Werner had four children, two sons and two daughters: Rosa A., Rev. William B., Emma J. and Jonathan. The widow and Jonathan and the two daughters reside on the home farm.

Rev. William B. Werner was reared on the farm, and after attending the public schools, entered the Kutztown State Normal school, from which he was graduated in the class of 1883. He then taught six terms in the public schools and took the four years course of Franklin and Marshall college, of Lancaster, this State, from which institution of learning he was

graduated in 1889. Shortly after graduation he was so unfortunate as to break his left leg, and was thus prevented from taking a further collegiate course, which he had contemplated. The next year he became a student in the Reformed Theological seminary, of Lancaster, Pennsylvania, and was graduated from that religious institution May 11, 1893. After leaving the seminary, he was employed in supply work of the church until the following September, when he was called to the pastorate of his present charge, consisting of the Heidelberg Reformed church, of Schwenksville, and the St. James Reformed church, of Limerick. On the 17th of September, 1893, he was solemnly set apart by the act of ordination, as a minister of the Reformed church and installed pastor of the Schwenksville charge by the venerable Dr. C. Z. Weiser, Dr. L. D. Leberman and Rev. S. M. K. Huber.

On March 27, 1894, Rev. Werner was united in marriage with Sallie I. Fahrenbach, a daughter of George Fahrenbach, the present sheriff of Berks county. Their union was blessed with one child, a daughter, named Helen Margaret, who was born January 20, 1895.

In political opinion Rev. William B Werner is a Democrat. He has been earnest and active in his pastoral labors for the upbuilding of his important charge.

WILLIAM POTTS JONES, a prosperous lumber manufacturer and coal dealer of Conshohocken, is a son of Evan D. and Anna (Potts) Jones, and was born at Conshohocken, Pennsylvania, September 15, 1861. Evan D. Jones was born in Plymouth township, Montgomery county, this State, on February 9, 1828, and died at Conshohocken February 8, 1890. He acquired his scholastic training in Reverend Samuel Aaron's select school and Treemount seminary at Norristown. This, however, constituted but a mere beginning of his education, which was essentially acquired by self-study and attrition with the world. He was a close student of men and events all his life, and thus acquired a superior practical education. About 1850 he organized the firm of Jonathan Jones & Son, lumber manufacturers and large wholesale and retail dealers in the same. In 1858 he and his brother started in the same business in Conshohocken under the firm name of E. D. & E. Jones, and continued until 1871, when Joseph C. Jones was taken into the firm, and the name changed to Evan D. Jones & Co. This business was operated successfully under his personal supervision until death ended his labors. He was a thorough-going, careful and conscientious business man, and for many years was president of all the building and loan associations of the town; also president of the First National bank of Conshohocken for several years. He was a strict member of the Society of Friends, a staunch Republican, and bore the distinction of being the first burgess of Conshohocken.

On October 15, 1857, he and Anna, a daughter of William Potts, of Plymouth, were united in marriage, the progeny of which union are five children, two sons and three daughters: Eliza, who died at the age of three years; William P., subject; Evan, deceased at the age of eighteen; Martha, the wife of Herman P. Miller, who was librarian for many years of the Pennsylvania State senate, still holding that office; and Lillian, who resides at home.

William Potts Jones obtained a good education in the public schools of his native

city and in Swarthmore college. Leaving college in 1880, he became associated with his father in business and continued with him until the latter died, when he succeeded to the business. Subsequently the business was conducted under the firm style of E. D. Jones & Co, until January 1, 1891, when the firm was amicably dissolved, Mr. Jones taking charge of the planing mill and coal yards, and Mr. Joseph C. Jones the lumber department. He is a director in the Progress and Enterprise Building and Loan associations, a Republican in politics and a member of the Society of Friends.

On March 28, 1888, Mr. Jones and Miss Elizabeth Coulston, a daughter of James Coulston, a prosperous farmer of Whitemarsh township, this county, were happily married, and to them have been born two children: Evan D. and Frances C.

A. W. ROSENBERGER, of Skippack, is one of the most successful and best known merchants of inland Montgomery county. He has been actively engaged in the store business ever since he was a boy and now is at the head of a large and thriving general store. He is descended from old German ancestry and is the son of David D. and Kate (Clemmer) Rosenberger. He was born September 2, 1862, at Green Square, this county.

Mr. Rosenberger can well feel proud of his ancestry for they have always taken a high place in the society of the county. His paternal grandfather was John Rosenberger, a successful farmer owning a large property. He was actively identified with the Republican party and was one of the leaders in his section. He was also an active christian worker, being an adherent of the Mennonite faith. He died at an advanced age.

Mr. Rosenberger's father received the advantage of the common schools of his day, but was obliged to take up the active work of life when still quite young. Later on he became engaged in mercantile pursuits and for fifteen years successfuly conducted a large store, which he abandoned to take up farming. He was an active Republican and a member of the Reformed church. He was a good citizen and always commanded the respect and esteem of the people of his section. Mr. Rosenberger was married three times and was the father of six children. These are: John, and Mrs. Mary Hagy by the first marriage; and Mrs. Kate Keck and Mrs. Mary Hardenfelter, Samuel C. and the subject of this sketch by his second wife. The mother of A. W. Rosenberger died in 1867, and David D. Rosenberger in 1876.

The gentleman whose biography is recorded here, was given a few years schooling in the public institutions of his section, but was forced at an early age to start out in life and carve out his own career. This he has been eminently successful in doing. He was first employed as a clerk for W. O. Crouthamel, of Bucks county, who kept a general store. After three years he accepted a clerkship in the store of Isaac Fritz, of Philadelphia. Later he returned to Skippack and became a clerk in W. F. Hallman's store. He then clerked for R. Scheetz, of Norristown, leaving there to go to Centre Square, where he was engaged as a store clerk for four years. For three years after that Mr. Rosenberger was a clerk for J. C. Kulp, at Skippack, and only left that gentleman's employ to engage in the general store business for himself as the partner of Mr. Keeler, the

firm name being Rosenberger & Keeler. During the last three years this store has rapidly grown in prominence and prosperity and to-day is one of the most complete mercantile stores in this region. Mr Rosenberger holds a prominent place in his community as an enterprising citizen and the firm advocate of progress. He is a Republican in politics and is earnest in his advocacy of the principles of the party. He is a prominent member of the Reformed church and is an active worker in the church. He was married to Anna Kulp, daughter of S. Kulp, who is a well known and respected citizen of this county.

HORACE C. JONES, a prominent manufacturer of Conshohocken, this county, is a son of Ellwood and Rachel C. (Conrad) Jones, and was born June 16, 1857. To the principality of Wales many of the substantial, thrifty and prosperous citizens of the United States trace their ancestry. An early emigrant from that country to this was Isaac Jones, the great-grandfather of the subject of this sketch. He located on a farm in the vicinity of Conshohocken, then Whitemarsh township and upon this farm he operated extensive limestone quarries, doing a large and prosperous business and lived there the remainder of his days. One of his sons, Jonathan Jones, grandfather, was born on this Whitemarsh township farm, took up the pursuits of farming and lumbering in that vicinity with his sons, under the firm name of Jonathan Jones and Sons. In his latter days he removed to Plymouth township, where he died. He was a man of good business capacity, and was successful in amassing a very handsome competency. He was a great admirer of Clay and the political principles he represented, hence was an ardent Whig, whilst religiously, he was a member of the Society of Friends, belonging to the Hicksite division of the Meeting. He married Eliza Davis, daughter of John Davis, and had six children, three sons and three daughters: Elizabeth, Anne, Evan D., Ellwood, Esther and Davis.

Ellwood Jones, father, profited by a common school education and then learned the lumber business with his father and pursued it as the major part of his life work in Plymouth township, where he owned and operated a saw mill. Latterly the business was carried on in Conshohocken under the firm name of Jonathan Jones and Sons, and later, upon the death of Jonathan Jones, by Ellwood and Evan D. Jones. The father died in Conshohocken in June 1869, at the age of forty-two years. His children were as follows: Horace C., subject; Abbie, wife of Henry D. Cranor, a resident of Conshohocken; Hettie, died in childhood; A. Conrad, in the employ of I. P. Thomas & Company; and Elwood C., a resident of Conshohocken, a clerk in the employ of his brother Horace C.

Horace C. Jones received his mental training in the public schools of Conshohocken and in the University of Pennsylvania, in which latter institution he spent one year as a member of the class of 1877. Leaving college he entered the employ of E. D. & E. Jones, lumbermen of Conshohocken. He remained with that firm until 1880, when he entered into a business partnership with Stanley Lees, under the firm name of Horace C. Jones & Company. Mr. Lees went out of the firm in 1885, when H. C. Jones gave Mr. Booth an interest in the business under the same firm name. Later they purchased the Whitton Cotton and Woolen mills at

Conshohocken, which they have operated ever since. They manufacture a high grade of cotton and woolen goods, the capacity of their mills being one half million yards per year, which affords employment for one hundred hands. In addition to his manufacturing interests, Mr. Jones is prominently identified with a number of other financial and industrial enterprises of his town. He is a director in the First National bank of Conshohocken, director in the Norristown Title, Trust and Safe Deposit company, secretary and treasurer of the Conshohocken Electric Light and Power company, director of the Conshohocken Gas company and Conshohocken Woolen company and treasurer of the West Manayunk Gas light company, and is largely interested in real estate in and around Conshohocken. He is a Republican politically, but has never had time nor inclination to enter actively the arena of politics. Like his ancestors, he is a member of the Society of Friends.

On February 5, 1889, Mr. Jones married Miss Linda, a daughter of John W. Loch, president of the Norristown Title and Trust company. One child, Spencer, has been born to this marriage union.

Mr. Jones, by sheer force of a strong individuality and a will power that recognizes no lion in the way, coupled with a natural aptitude for business and industrial development, has won an enviable business success. He is popular as a business man and highly respected as a citizen and is frequently called upon to act in the capacity of executor, administrator and guardian.

HARVEY F. SCHOLL, M. D., who is a graduate of the Jefferson Medical college and who is now actively engaged in the practice of his profession at Green Lane, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, is a son of Henry N. and Hannah (Frederick) Scholl, and was born in Upper Salford township, Montgomery county, this State, April 3, 1871. The family of which Dr. Scholl is a worthy representative is of German lineage, and was founded in Eastern Pennsylvania, during early colonial times. They were a hardy, industrious and frugal family and contributed largely to the early development of the State.

Philip Scholl, the paternal great-grandfather of Dr. Scholl, was a blacksmith and farmer of Franconia township, this county, and one of his sons Jonathan Scholl, was for many years a prosperous farmer of Marlborough township. He married Sallie Nice, who bore him seven children: Jessie, Jacob (deceased), Henry N., Lena, Mary, Sarah and Kate. Henry N. Scholl, father, was born in Upper Salford township, Pennsylvania, on March 7, 1842.

Dr. Scholl attended Ursinus college and Sumneytown academy and after acquiring a good academic education, took a commercial course in Pierce's Business college, at Philadelphia, graduating in the class of '86. Subsequently, he decided on a professional career and accordingly entered the office of Dr. J. E. Blanck, of Green Lane, with whom he read three years, when he matriculated in the Jefferson Medical college, Philadelphia, from which renowned institution he was graduated in 1893. Immediately after his graduation, he located at Green Lane, where he has since been successfully engaged in the practice of his chosen profession. Dr. Scholl is a close student of the leading medical literature of the day, a careful practitioner, and from the energy and skill already displayed, bids fair to be-

come one of the leading physicians of eastern Pennsylvania. He is a member of the Sumneytown Reformed church. On May 2, 1895, Dr. Scholl and Laura, a daughter of Jacob and Sallie (Markley) Allebach, were happily united in marriage.

EPHRAIM FRITZ, of Pottstown, is known as one of the most progressive and enterprising men of Montgomery county as well as a man whose philanthropy and liberality have made him beloved and esteemed by everybody in his neighborhood. He is a native of Douglass township, Berks county, and was born January 15, 1828, his parents being John and Catharine (Sassaman) Fritz. The name is of German origin, but for many years the Fritz family have been residents of this section of the State, having emigrated to this country early in the eighteenth century. The family settled in Douglass township, Berks county, and here grandfather John Fritz was born and lived all his life. He was a farmer and tilled a property of one hundred rich acres. He was not active in politics but always voted the Democratic ticket. He was a very active churchman, however, and was a member of the Lutheran denomination. He married Sarah Sands, who bore him six children: Samuel, Joseph, David, Catharine Hollman, Sarah Keiser and John. He died at the age of eighty years. John, father of the subject, was born on the homestead, in Douglass township, Berks county, in 1802, and was brought up as a farmer, the occupation he followed all his life. He was, like his father, a supporter of Democratic principles and a member of the Lutheran church of Pottstown. He married Catharine Sassaman, of Douglass township, on September 4, 1820, and the fruits of their union consisted of six children: Ephraim, John S., Nathaniel, deceased; Almira, Amelia, deceased; and Sarah. He died at the age of forty-two years.

Ephraim, the oldest, was unfortunate in being unable to get more than the scantiest of school-room practice and as his father died when he was fifteen years old, he early went to work on the farm and remained with his mother until he was twenty-three years of age. He then married and worked at various industrial pursuits for a number of years. When still a young man he began to take a great interest in politics and soon became a very popular leader in the Democratic party. His first office was that of tax collector of Douglass township, Berks county, and he was afterward appointed mercantile appraiser. In 1857 he was taken up by the party and elected clerk of the courts, receiving the highest majority of any of the successful candidates that year. In his own township he got every vote but one, a sure test as to his popularity and the respect with which his neighbors considered him.

Sometime after serving his term of office, Mr. Fritz came to Pottstown, where he has since made his home. He engaged in the lumber and coal business as one of the firm of Fritz, Egolf & Company, and was active in the business for twenty-two years. Besides his interest in the lumber and coal business, Mr. Fritz became very active in enterprises and has been a director of the Glasgow Iron company for eight years, a director of the Old National bank of Pottstown for fifteen years and was treasurer of the Union Savings and Building and Loan association for many years. His great business ability and tact aided in making all of these enterprises highly successful and his

uprightness of character secured for him the respect and confidence of the whole community, and he is now serving his twenty-second consecutive year as treasurer of the town. Mr. Fritz is a member of the Transfiguration Lutheran church of Pottstown. He loves his church above all else and has ever been a zealous worker in the vineyard. He has held all the official positions in it, such as deacon, trustee and elder and has been a most liberal subscriber to all its various funds. He contributed three thousand dollars toward the parsonage and eleven hundred dollars toward wiping out the church indebtedness and is a very liberal and regular weekly contributor to the general fund. In his private life he is a man of great philanthropy.

On the 1st of September, 1857, Mr. Fritz and Elizabeth, daughter of Peter Egolf, of Pottsgrove township, were joined in wedlock. This marriage was productive of only one child, a son, John, who died aged three years. This bereavment was a sad blow to both of these amiable people. Mr. Fritz was, however, called upon to bear a more crushing blow in later life, when the companion of his married life died on January 2, 1894. Mrs. Fritz had lived to be sixty-four years and hers was truly a beautiful Christian career.

SQUIRE I. H. JOHNSON, justice of the peace at Creamery P. O., has had a very busy and active life, especially in the political world. He is a descendant of fine old Pennsylvania stock and was born at Creamery P. O., November 7, 1834. His parents were Henry G. and Sallie (Hunsicker) Johnson. His grandfather, William Johnson, was born June 7, 1752. He was educated in the common schools and spent his life in active work on his farm, and was also a deacon of the Mennonite church. He was the father of ten children: Jacob, John, William, Henry, Ann, Catharine, Mary, Sarah, Elizabeth and Susanna. He died in Upper Providence and has always lived and practiced in the faith of the Mennonite church. Henry G. Johnson, the father of the subject of this sketch, was born in Upper Providence township on March 13, 1806. He was sent to the public schools and then became a teacher. He taught school thirty-three years and also during that time worked his farm. He was a preacher and member of the Mennonite church, and an active Sunday-school worker. In politics he was a Republican. He was the father of two children, the subject of this sketch and Henry. He died July 25, 1879.

Squire I. H. Johnson is the personification of a self-made man. He was educated in the public schools and then, like his father, became a teacher. He taught several terms and also farmed while teaching. Mr. Johnson has always been very prominent in public enterprises. He was one of the board of directors of the shirt factory at Skippackville and a member of the board of managers of the hat factory at Iron Bridge. He is also a director in the Schwenksville bank from its organization some twenty years ago. In politics Mr. Johnson has always been a very prominent Republican and has held numerous offices in the gift of the people. He was an auditor for thirteen years and a school director for twenty-four years. He has held the post of judge of elections for many years and was for four years a notary public. At present he is a justice of the peace, enjoying a large and lucrative practice.

Squire Johnson has always been an ener-

getic worker in the Mennonite church and has for years led the singing in the congregation. On February 5, 1852, he married Sarah Ziegler, daughter of Abraham Ziegler and they have two children.

Besides the other enterprises already enumerated, Mr. Johnson is one of the managers of the Perkiomen Valley Insurance company and was one of the founders of the creamery and had been treasurer since its organization fifteen years ago at his place of residence, all of which things tell how he has spent an active life and has gained the respect of the people of the district.

ALBERT HELFFENSTEIN, a resident of Norristown, and ex-register of wills of Montgomery county, is a son of Jonathan and Emeline (Bush) Helffenstien, and was born near North Wales, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, February 10, 1840. He was reared at his birthplace until he was fourteen years of age, and then came to Norristown, where he served as a clerk until he reached his eighteenth year. He learned the trade of printer in the office of the *National Defender*, then a native American paper and at that time under the control of Colonel William P. Seymour. He remained on the paper until 1864, when he and his eldest brother, Samuel B., purchased it from General Schall, then its owner, and soon ran its circulation from six hundred up to sixteen hundred copies. In 1872 he sold his interest in the paper to his brother Samuel B., and then acted as foreman on the *Norristown Times* up to 1890, in which year he was nominated for register of wills by the Democratic party. He was elected and served from 1891 to 1894, and then at the expiration of his term engaged in his present business (job printing) on Main street. He is an active Democrat, a member of the Humane Fire company, and served for eight weeks as an emergency soldier in Company H, 34th Pennsylvania militia, being stationed successively at Harrisburg, Reading and Philadelphia.

In 1861 Mr. Helffenstein married Matilda Earl, a daughter of Lawson Earl, of Norristown. They have three children: Emily, wife of Charles Howe, of Camden, New Jersey; Mary, who wedded Thomas J. Stiles, of Norristown; and Katie, wife of Thomas M. Williams, of Philadelphia.

The Helffenstein family is noted and prominent in the history of the German Reformed church of Pennsylvania, as the Muhlenberg family was distinguished and active in connection with the Evangelical Lutheran church in the Keystone State. Rev. John Conrad Helffenstein was born February 16, 1748, in the Palatinate, Germany, and in 1772 came to Germantown, where he was settled over the German Reformed church of that place and where he died May 17, 1790, when in the prime of manhood. Three of this patriarch's sons, Samuel, Charles and Jonathan, were distinguished ministers of the Reformed church, while in the succeeding generation, Samuel, Albert and Jacob, sons of Rev. Samuel, became noted ministers of their father's and grandfather's church. Rev. Samuel Helffenstein, the elder, married a Miss Kircher, of Philadelphia, and was the father of Rev. Samuel Helffenstein, D. D., who, when a sickly child, was dedicated to the Lord, by his mother, like Hannah of old. She gave him in charge of the synod to be educated and he was ordained in 1797. He was pastor of the Race street church from 1798 to 1832 and then removed to near North Wales, where he died October 17, 1866, aged ninety-

one years. He published a volume on didactic theology, had twenty-seven young men under his charge, who were preparing for the ministry, and retained his full mental force until the last. At twenty-two years of age he married Anna Christina Steitle, who died in 1860, aged eighty-one years. Their son, Jonathan Helffenstein, was born in Philadelphia, in 1814, and died in March, 1847. He married Emeline Bush, a daughter of Henry Bush, and reared a family of five children: Samuel B., editor of the *Norristown Defender*; Albert, the subject of this sketch; Annie, who married Thomas B. Evans, of Norristown; Emanuel and Emily.

OLIVER M. EVANS, the efficient teller of the First National bank of Lansdale, is one of the foremost and most highly respected citizens of that town. He is a native of Hatfield township, Montgomery county, and is a descendant of Welsh ancestors, the original emigrant of whom was John Evans, who emigrated from Wales and settled in this country in 1696. He landed at Philadelphia and afterwards located in Chester county. The first of the family born in this country was John Evans, a son of the emigrant, who was born April 14, 1700, and died April 14, 1738. He married Jane Howell, daughter of Robert Howell, and among their children was a son, Peter Evans, who was born September 28, 1722, and was a doctor by profession. During the Revolution he was a commissioner of supplies for the Continental army, the depot for which was located at the old meeting-house below South Wales, Montgomery county. During this time he served as justice of the peace and tried some of the members of the Hill Town Baptist church for refusing to carry arms in the Revolution, but it is alleged that he discharged them. He married Rachel Evans, of Gwynedd township, Montgomery county, who is thought to have been a daughter of David Evans. John Evans, the grandfather of our subject, was one of the offspring of this marriage. He was born February 13, 1767, and was a farmer by occupation. He married Elizabeth Evans, a relative of Hon. Henry S. Evans, State senator of Chester county. Grandfather Evans died October 15, 1824.

Jonathan Evans, M. D., (father), was born January 28, 1793, on his father's farm. He was sent to the pay schools of the district and then took a course in the medical department of the University of Pennsylvania. After graduating, he practiced in Hatfield township for a number of years, and then went to Philadelphia, where he resided until his death, on July 7, 1851. He was a very active Whig in politics, and was a man of broad views and sterling qualities. He was married twice. His first wife was Sarah, daughter of the Rev. Joseph Mathias, of Bucks county, and they had one child, Julia, now deceased. His second wife was Jane Jenkins, daughter of Owen Jenkins. Two children bless this union: Oliver M., our subject; and Sally J., who is the wife of Dr. John S. Jenkins.

Oliver M. Evans was born on April 28, 1831, and is therefore in the sixty-fifth year of his age. He received a common school education, and then went to Philadelphia, where he became engaged in the mercantile business. He remained here fifteen years and then went to Lansdale and accepted the post of teller in the First National bank, a position that he has held for thirty-one years. In politics Mr. Evans is a Republican, and

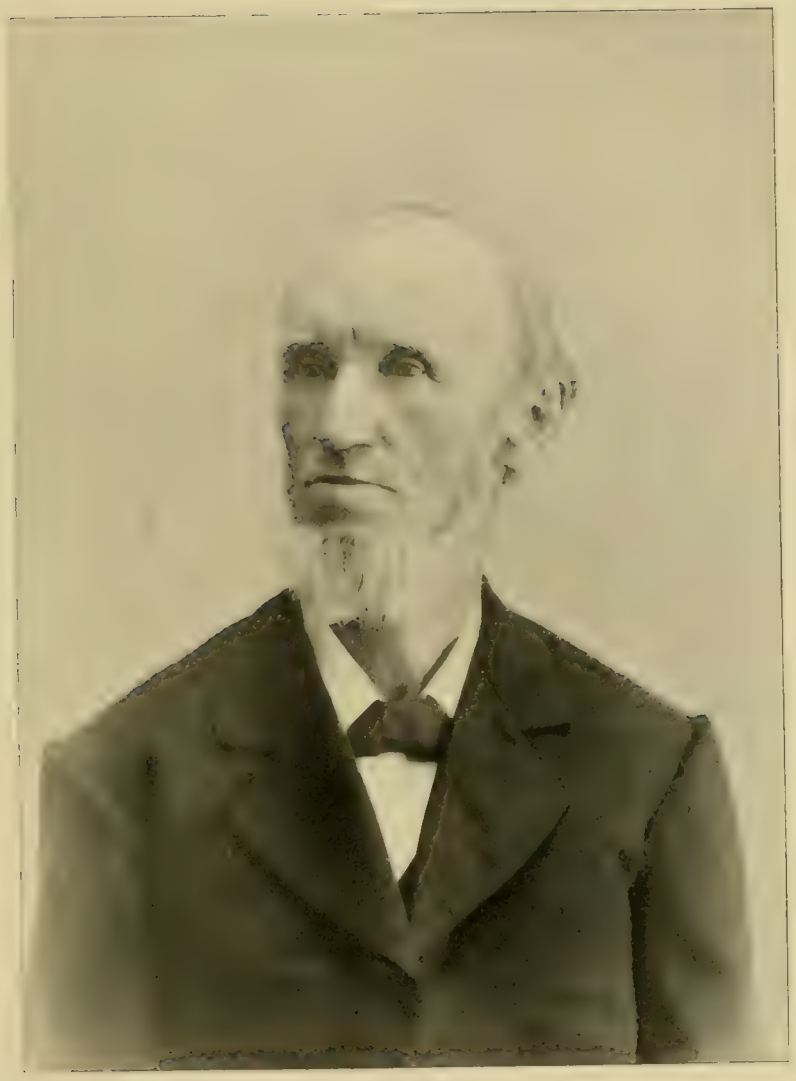
has been very active for the interest of his party. He has held every local office in the gift of the people, and is at present treasurer of the borough. He is also president of the board of health, and is greatly respected in the community for his progressive ideas, straightforward business methods and thorough honesty

Mr. Evans was married January 31, 1871, to Ella, daughter of Charles Todd Jenkins, of this county, and they have three children: Jennie, born January 25, 1872; Evelyn, born January 8, 1874; and O. Morris, born March 17, 1882. The Evans family have always been consistent and active members of the Baptist church.

HENRY G. GROFF, M. D., of Harleysville, for the past forty years has been one of the foremost and most widely known physicians of his native county, and to-day is enjoying good health and an abundance of important practice. He was born near Salford station, in Upper Salford township, a district that has known his ancestors for three generations. His parents were John and Sarah (Gable) Groff. His grandsire on the paternal side was Jacob Groff, who was born in Upper Salford township in 1751. By occupation the elder Groff was a fuller and dyer, and he carried on this business all his life in connection with working a very productive farm of one hundred and eighty acres. He was an active Democrat politically, and was an earnest and energetic member of the Lutheran church. He was married in December, 1773, to Elizabeth Huebner, and this union resulted in the following family of children: Jacob, Joseph, Henry, John, Abraham, Elizabeth, who became the wife of George Daub; and Mary, who wedded John Leidy. He died in 1824.

John Groff, the father of Dr. Groff, was born in Upper Salford township in December, 1796. He was educated in the public schools, and became a fuller, dyer and farmer, which he followed all his life. He was married twice, his first wife being Sarah Gable, and his second, Kate Frederick. By his first marriage there were four children: Philip, Augustus, Henry and Jesse; and three children were the result of the second marriage: John, Angeline, who was married to Joseph Huber; and Franklin, who died young. Three children by the first wife are living, Augustus is dead, while all but one by the second are dead. Mr. Groff was a Democrat. He was also a member of the Lutheran church, and always held a prominent place in the affairs of the congregation, having been an elder, a trustee and a deacon. He died in 1875, aged seventy-nine years, four months and twenty days.

Dr. Groff, the subject of this sketch, commenced his education in the common schools of his native town, and afterwards attended Freeland seminary. He then entered the office of Dr. H. Geiger for the purpose of studying medicine, and graduated from the Philadelphia Medical college in 1852. He then began the active practice of his profession with Dr. Reinhart K. Keeler, with whom he has been in partnership ever since. He has been in the profession forty-three years, and during that time has gained a reputation that is confined to neither town, township nor county. He is a man of ripe experience in all of the branches of his profession, and he has always enjoyed the highest esteem of his neighbors. In politics he is a Republican, and in his earlier years devoted some time and energy in aiding the success of his party, He has been a life long member of the Lutheran church,



Henry G Groff

and has ever worked faithfully for it. He has been treasurer of the church for a number of years, and also an elder. It was through his influence that the beautiful union chapel was erected at Harleysville, and there are many other things to show that he was prominent in church and public affairs. He owns a farm in this place that he has successfully operated for years.

In October, 1856, Dr. Groff married Hannah, the only child of Rev. Isaac Clements. This marriage, which has been marked by the greatest happiness and felicity, resulted in the birth of seven children. They are: Mary, who intermarried with Garret Landis; Olivia, who became the wife of John Moyer; Dr. John Groff, Ida, now the wife of Sheridan Metz; Hannah, who espoused Wilson Alderfer; Kate, who was married to I. Stover; and Henry Groff. His son John studied medicine and graduated from Jefferson Medical college in 1890. He then took his father's place, and is maintaining the high standard of the paternal professional name.

JOSEPH J. McGINLEY, secretary and business manager of the *Times* Publishing Company, of Norristown, is a son of Francis and Mary (Walters) McGinley, and was born on the old McGinley homestead at Norristown, Pennsylvania, August 20, 1868. His paternal grandfather, Bernard McGinley, was a native and life long resident of County Donegal, Ireland, where Francis McGinley (father), was also born and lived until fourteen years of age. The latter then came to America with relatives, and lived at Frankford, Philadelphia county, this State, until he had attained his fifteenth year. He improved such opportunities as came in his way for obtaining an education, but they were meagre, as he had to make his own way in the world and could only study during evenings and at odd times. At the age of fifteen he came to Norristown, Montgomery county, and began learning the trade of shoemaker. After completing his apprenticeship, in 1852, he worked as a journeyman for several years. He then embarked in business as a shoemaker on his own account, at 270 East Main street, where he still carries on the business, though now in the sixtieth year of his age. He is a Democrat in politics and a Catholic in religion. In 1854 he married Mary Walters, a daughter of Daniel Walters, of Norristown, and to them were born ten children: Daniel, now engaged in the printing business in New York City; John, died at the age of seventeen; Frank, deceased in 1892, aged thirty; James, died in infancy; Clara, married Charles Dale, of Norristown; Joseph J., subject of this sketch; Annie, died in childhood; Bernard, died in infancy; Edward, a paper roller by trade; and Mary, a stenographer. Mrs. McGinley is a native of Ireland, and is now in the sixty-second year of her age.

Joseph J. McGinley was reared in his native borough of Norristown, where he attended the public school one year, and afterwards studied in the parochial schools until thirteen years of age. He then went into a woolen mill and worked for three years, after which he again entered the parochial school for one year, and, on leaving school, began learning the carpenter trade with Michael Murdy at Norristown. He completed his trade in the planing mill of Guest, Grater & Co. During this time he was attending night schools, endeavoring to secure a better education, and among other things took up book-keeping at Schissler's College

of Business. He also solicited orders and advertising for newspapers and periodicals, and in every way tried to advance himself in the world. In March, 1892, he was offered and accepted a position as bookkeeper with the *Times* Publishing Company of Norristown, and at once entered on his duties with enthusiasm and a determination to make himself indispensable to his employers. He strictly adhered to his purpose, and by industry and careful attention to business, gradually advanced himself to his present position as secretary and business manager of the company. He is recognized as one of the young business men of his borough, and is everywhere credited with having fought a good fight with opposing circumstances.

In politics Mr. McGinley is a Republican, and in religion a member of the Catholic church. He is also a member and vice-president of the Catholic F. A. B. society of Norristown, and takes an active interest in matters pertaining to the public welfare. Mr. McGinley is unmarried.

WILLIAM H. SHOFFNER, a prominent builder and contractor of Norristown, Pennsylvania, was born August 9, 1853. He is a son of Abraham and Sarah A. Shoffner, and is a native of Norristown. His paternal grandfather, Alexander Shoffner, came from Germany to this country and located on a farm near Lionville, Chester county, this State, where he continued to reside uninterruptedly until his death. Among his children was Abraham Shoffner, the father of William H. He was reared in Chester county, was educated in the common schools near Lionville, and when he became of sufficient age to learn a trade was apprenticed to a carpenter and learned the craft of carpentering and joining. He was engaged in the pursuits of his trade the greater part of his life, and did considerable contract work, but subsequently removed to Norristown, of which place he was a resident up to the time of his death. He was firmly attached to the Lutheran church in which he held membership, and was equally strong supporter of the Democratic party. By his marriage a family of nine children resulted.

William H. Shoffner, whose name appears at the head of this sketch, was educated in the common schools, and at the time of the last illness of his father, succeeded to the management of the contracting business, which he undertook in partnership with his brother, James K., under the firm name of Shoffner and Brother. This firm has built a large number of handsome residences and public buildings, largely in the borough of Norristown. Among those worthy of mention are the residences of Wallace Boyer, George W. Rogers, Charles Paist, H. K. Reagar, Theo. White. In addition to these they constructed the buildings of the Norristown Steel company and the Star Glass works of Norristown.

On July 1, 1894, the firm of Shoffner & Bro. broke ground for the City market house, situated between Airy and Marshall streets, Norristown. This building, when completed, will be one of the best structures of its kind in the State, and contains the offices and council rooms for the borough government, a public hall ninety-six by forty-six feet, a military armory and an annexed club room, besides a variety of commission and market stalls. The building is to be furnished with all the modern and best improved equipments necessary to

each department. The total cost of the erection is in the neighborhood of sixty thousand dollars.

In June, 1880, Mr. Shoffner married Ida Krepps, a daughter of Henry Krepps, of Norristown. They have two children: Wallace B. deceased; and Helen May.

At seventeen years of age Mr. Shoffner enlisted in Company H, Sixteenth regiment, national guard of Pennsylvania, and served for a period of twelve years. He was discharged as a first lieutenant. During the great railroad strike of 1877, the militia was called into service at Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, where Mr. Shoffner experienced the practical and arduous routine of the soldier's life until the termination of the strike. In politics he is a Democrat, but in local affairs aims to support the man rather than the party. He is a member of the Shield of Honor; Improved Order of Red Men; Knights of the Golden Eagle; and Curtis Lodge, I. O. O. F. He is also a member of the Excelsior Saving, Trust, Building and Loan association, and served a number of years as a member of the board of trade. He is a member of the Protestant Episcopal church.

HENRY W. GRAUL, an ex-teacher, justice of the peace, and a civil engineer and conveyancer, of Green Lane, this county, is a son of Levi and Lydia (Blanck) Graul, and was born at Hoppenville, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, November 8, 1839. Mr. Graul is of German descent on his father's side and British on his grandmothers side. His paternal grandfather, Jacob Graul, was a life-long resident of Lehigh county, this State, where he was engaged in agricultural pursuits. He married Miss Wetzel who bore him three children: Levi, father; Jacob, and a daughter, who was kidnapped in her childhood.

Levi Graul, father, the eldest of a family of three children, was born in Weisenburg township, Lehigh county, Penna. His father dying when he was a small boy, he was indentured to his uncle who gave him a good education. After passing through the public schools of his native township, he attended various academies and finally entered Lafayette college. Here, however, he remained but a short time. Leaving college he apprenticed himself to learn the merchant-tailoring trade for four full years. Thorough and reliable in his workmanship, artistic in his tastes, and understanding well the philosophy of dress, he made this his life-work. He was a Democrat in political opinion, and a member of St. Luke's Lutheran church, at Pennsburg. He was an earnest and zealous worker in the church and a liberal contributor to all benevolent and charitable institutions. His marriage in 1838, resulted in the birth of one son, Henry W., the subject of this sketch. Mr. Graul died at Green Lane, Montgomery county, this State, on December 7, 1881, aged sixty-nine years, five months, twenty days, and his wife Lydia passed away February 28, 1867, aged fifty years.

Henry W. Graul was educated in the public schools of Upper Hanover township, this county; select schools at Allentown, this State; Washington Hall, at "The Trappe," this county, and the Bucks county Normal and Classical School, at Quakertown, in the latter of which he prepared himself for the Sophomore year at college. Subsequently, in 1861, he engaged in teaching, and continued successfully until 1883, when he abandoned his

profession. During this time he taught in Upper Hanover, East Greenville and Sumneytown, and was assistant principal of the Bucks county Normal and Classical Institute, and from 1875 to 1883 inclusive, was principal of the Green Lane school.

Politically he is a Democrat, and in 1879, he was elected justice of the peace, in which office he has since been continued. In conjunction with this he is engaged in surveying and conveyancing. He is possessed of rare musical talent and has made a specialty of both vocal and instrumental music. He is a prominent member of the Sumneytown Lutheran church and is organist for the Sumneytown Union churches, Lutheran and Reformed. He takes an interest in secret and fraternal societies; is a member of Green Lane Castle No. 202, K. G. E., and of Charity Lodge No. 190, Free and Accepted Masons, at Norristown, Pa.

On March 21, 1861, he wedded Esther A., a daughter of Colonel Henry Dotts, a prominent farmer of Pennsburg, and to them have been born four children: Esther Janett, who is the wife of Jacob Allebach, a merchant of Green Lane; Olive C., deceased in 1863; Lydia Margaret, deceased, and Philip Malancthon, who graduated at East Stroudsburg State normal school in the class of '95. The latter was elected teacher of Lehighton "A" Grammar school soon after graduation.

JOHN F. BEAN, who is the proprietor of a large general store at Creamery, postmaster, and is also interested in several large business enterprises, is a son of Garret and Kate (Fryer) Bean. He was born on his father's farm in Skippack township, on December 2, 1844. He is descended from German stock, but his ancestors have been in this country for at least five generations. His paternal great-grandfather, John Bean, was born in Philadelphia county in the year 1761. He was a farmer by occupation, and served in the War of 1812, dying in 1846. The paternal grandfather was born in Worcester township in 1788, and was a farmer all his life, operating a splendid tract of land containing one hundred and thirty acres. In politics he was first a Whig and later a Republican. The Bean family were all members of the Mennonite church, and Grandfather Bean was a preacher for a number of years. He was married to Susan Ziegler, and they had only one child, the father of the subject of this sketch. Grandfather Bean died in August, 1854, aged sixty-six years. Garret Bean was born on the old homestead in Skippack township on October 14, 1811. He attended school until he was twenty years old, spending his vacations in assisting his father on the farm. After leaving school, he devoted all of his time to farming, and at the death of his father, he came into possession of all the property. He was a Republican in politics and quite active in the local councils of his party. He served as bank director for thirty years in the old Montgomery and First National banks of Norristown, and for some years he served as a school director, and always took a deep interest in educational matters. Like his father, he was a member of the Mennonite church. Garret Bean was married twice. His first wife was Esther Hunsicker, and she bore him four children: Susan, who married John A. Drake; Sarah, the wife of Henry Fryer; Magdalina, the wife of Jonathan Wousetler; and another who died in infancy. The mother died at the same time, and they were laid to rest

together. His second wife is Kate Fryer, and this union resulted in the birth of three sons: Henry, John and Garret, jr. Garret, sr., died May 31, 1892.

John F. Bean was reared on the farm, but was given a good education. He attended the common schools, and then spent one year at Freeland seminary, now Ursinus college. After leaving this institution, Mr. Bean taught school in Skippack township for two years, leaving that position to become a clerk for William F. Hallman, with whom he remained two years. The following two years he clerked in H. M. Alderfer's store, and three years for F. F. Hendricks & Co., Schwenksville. Three years he was the proprietor of the store at Lederachville, and in 1879 he came to Creamery and started in the general store business at this place, and two years later established the first post-office at this place, of which he has since been the incumbent. He has a very large store and carries a large stock of goods of every line that are saleable in a store of that character. At this writing it will make his twenty-eighth year in mercantile life.

Mr. Bean prospered from the very start, and is now one of the foremost business men of that section. He is not only interested in his general store, but he is also a heavy stockholder of the Royersford banks and Water company, and a member of other public enterprises. As a Republican in politics, he is a firm believer in the principles of the party platform and never misses an election.

On January 23, 1869, Mr. Bean and Sarah H. Hallman were happily wedded, and they have had six children: Annie Laura, born August 28, 1870, and now wife of C. R. Hunsicker; Katie May, born May 22, 1876, deceased; Clement H., born August 16, 1877; John Wallace, born March 6, 1881, deceased; Perry H., born May 21, 1884; Sallie Pearl, born January 6, 1886.

WILLIAM Z. KREIBLE, one of the leading bakers of Norristown, Pennsylvania, is a son of William and Mary (Zilling) Kreible, and was born in Worcester township, this county, September 19, 1851. The Kreible family are of German lineage, and trace back their ancestry to a member of the family who came to this country at an early period, and located in Worcester township. Samuel Kreible, paternal great-grandfather, owned a large mill and farm in the township above mentioned, to which he devoted the major part of his life. He was a member of the religious sect called Schwenkfelters, and was twice married. By his first wife he had five children: Lydia Krause, Elizabeth Schultz, Sallie, Susanna Anders and William. After the death of Mrs. Kreible, he again was united in marriage, and by this union one child was born: Sophia Schultz.

William Kreible (father), was born and reared on the old homestead farm, where he resides at present. He has recently sold a part of his landed property to his sons, Amos, Michael and Elmer, but has retained one of his farms. Politically, he is a Republican, and in religion has adopted the faith of his forefathers, that of the Schwenkfelders. He reared a family of twelve children: Samuel, Amos, Michael, Susannah, Francis, William, Elizabeth, Mary, Chester, Edwin, Elmer and Emma.

William Z. Kreible received an elementary education in the district schools and learned the trade of miller, in which business he was engaged for twenty-three years.

In 1887 he came to Norristown and started a bakery at 606 and 608 West Marshall street, where he is now located. Adjoining his business room he has erected a commodious three-story brick dwelling, forty by one hundred and forty feet, with all the conveniences of a comfortable home. He has succeeded in building up a large trade, and has extended his business beyond the precincts of Norristown itself, to the adjoining country districts. For this purpose he employs three wagons.

Mr. Kreible is an active Republican, and a member of the Reformed church of Norristown. On September 13, 1873, he was united in marriage with Kate H. Swartley, whose paternal grandfather, Joseph Swartley, was a large farmer, located in Skippackville. Mr. Swartley was prominent in local politics. He was married to Catharine Reiff, by whom he had two children: Kate and Elias, father of Kate H. Swartley. Elias Swartley was reared in the vicinity of Skippackville, but later in life he removed to Pottstown, Pennsylvania, where he remained two years. Mr. Swartley has been twice married. In 1890 he removed to Orange county, Florida, where he resided until shortly before his death, September 12, 1895. He married Eliza Striner, and they are the parents of five daughters: Emma J. Kratz; Kate H., Anna E. McCracken, Mary Kreible and Lillie Roshon.

Mr. and Mrs. Kreible have had two children: Elmer and Mary L., both of whom are deceased.

GEORGE ADAM AUTENRIETH, a veteran soldier of the late Civil war, and a resident of Norristown, is a son of Philip J. and Louisa (Buck) Autenrieth, and was born in Wurtemburg, Germany, October 7, 1829. His father was a member of the Lutheran church, and married Louisa Buck, who died January 21, 1850, at the age of forty-five years. Philip J. died September 18, 1836. They had four children: William, Philip J., Adam and Margaret.

Adam Autenrieth learned the trade of shoemaker in his native country, which vocation he pursued during his life. In 1858 he bid adieu to his native shores and came to this country and located in New York City. Remaining there two years, he then removed to Norristown, where he has resided ever since. During the late Civil war he was in active service from September 24, 1863, until the close of the war. He enlisted in Company G, Ninetieth Pennsylvania infantry, and was captured on the Weldon railroad August 19th of the next year, and taken to Libby prison. Later he was removed to Belle Island, Virginia, and then to Salisbury, North Carolina. On November 26, 1864, while yet a prisoner, he was transferred to Company H, of the Eleventh Pennsylvania veteran infantry, but was not exchanged until February, 1865, and did not join the regiment until April 13, 1865. He was discharged June 10, of the same year. He served in quite a number of engagements, among the most important of which were the following: Battles of the Wilderness and Chancellorsville; the attack against Agna Landing; in the expedition against Early; battles of Bridge and Mitchell's Station; campaign around Petersburg; and the engagements at Rappahannock Station, Sulphur Springs, Thoroughfare Gap, Groveton, Second Bull Run and Chantilly. During General Lee's first invasion to the North, he witnessed the battles of South Mountain, Turner's Gap and Antietam. He was also on duty

at Poatts Point, in the Mud March, Chancellorsville, and during Lee's second invasion he helped to win one of the great decisive battles of the world. In the Wilderness campaign he took an active part in the battles of the Wilderness, Spottsylvania, Laurel Hill, Guinea Station, North Anna, Cold Harbor, and was at the siege of Petersburg. He was in the assault on Norfolk, Va., and in the engagements on the Weldon Railroad. Later he was in a reconnoitering expedition to the Poplar Springs Church, and then was on garrison duty at Fort Dushane until November 26, 1864.

In all Mr. Autenreith spent about two years of military life, and became acquainted with its pomp and glory as well as its horrible butchery. For six months he was retained as a prisoner of war and suffered much insolent and abusive treatment at the hands of the enemy.

Mr. Autenreith married Mary Bauer, a daughter of Frederick Bauer, and to this union have been born two sons and three daughters: Charles F., deceased; George, Mary, deceased; Matilda, Isabella and Anna Barbara.

JOHN H. LATSHAW, treasurer of the Royersford Glass company, is a son of Daniel and Angeline (Bean) Latshaw, and was born in the village of Royersford, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, on Christmas day, 1875. The family is of French descent, but have resided in eastern Pennsylvania for several generations. Daniel Latshaw, father, was born and reared in Chester county, this State, where he followed farming for a number of years. In later life he became a real estate dealer and conducted that business extensively at Royersford, Montgomery county, where he owned large tracts of valuable land. To his energy and enterprise is largely due the growth and development of the village, much of which stands on land formerly owned by him. His death occurred in 1886, when in the sixty-seventh year of his age, and his remains sleep in the Fernwood cemetery at Royersford. Although a strict member of the Mennonite church, he was broad and liberal in his views, and this spirit was finally illustrated by his donation of a town lot in Royersford for the erection of the Methodist Episcopal church. His energy and determination were proverbial, and were never more clearly show than in the effort to establish the first stove foundry at Royersford, which was organized under the name of Francis & Company, but is now known as Buckwalter & Company. His estate still owns much valuable land in and around the village. In 1850 he married Angeline Bean, a daughter of Samuel Bean of Montgomery county. By that union he had a family of nine children.

John H. Latshaw was reared in his native place and acquired a good English education in the public schools of Royersford. He subsequently entered Treemount seminary at Norristown, from which he was graduated in 1884. He then took a course of training in Bryant and Stratton's Business college in the city of Philadelphia, being graduated from the latter institution in 1885. Returning to Royersford he entered the Spring City National bank in a clerical capacity and remained there five years. He then served for one year as vice-president of the Grandee Stove company, and afterward purchased an interest in the Royersford Glass company. Mr. Latshaw at once became the treasurer of this company, and has ever since occupied that position with great acceptability. Their plant is located on

Second avenue, and employs, when running at its full capacity, about three hundred hands. They manufacture bottles of every size and kind. The company was chartered in 1886 and began business in a small way the same year. It has gradually increased until it now ranks with the most important industries of Montgomery county.

In addition to his interest in the Royersford Glass company, Mr. Latshaw is also a stockholder in the Grandee Stove company of Royersford, and the Keystone Light and Heat company of Philadelphia. In politics he is a Republican, and in religious faith a Methodist. He is a member of the Patriotic Order Sons of America, and has served as treasurer of the order. He is unmarried.

SIGNOR ENRICO BARILI, a nephew of Adelina Patti, and choir master of St. Patrick's Catholic church of Norristown, is a son of Signor Ettore and Antoinette (Camps) Barili, and was born at Caracas, Venezuela, South America, January 2, 1857. He traces his ancestry back to the family of Cardinal Barili, who lived in the sixteenth century, and was the great-great-great-uncle of Signor Ettore Barili, whose paternal ancestors for three centuries back, were musicians of note and distinction and served as organists of St. Peter's Cathedral in Rome. We quote the following account of Signor Ettore Barili which was recently written. "Signor Ettore Barili was born in Rome, Italy, November 5, 1828, and when ten years of age his father started to teach him music. By the time he was twelve years old he was playing the organ in St. Spirito church, over which his father presided. In 1843, the year his half sister, Adelina Patti, was born, he went to Milan, where he studied under Maestro Mulze. In 1846 he ran away from home and went on the stage at Monza, Italy, in *Due Foscon.* From there he went to the Grand Theatre, Barcelona, and appeared in *Rigoletto.* In 1849, while in Spain, he married Antoinette Camps, and in 1850 opened the theatre Rydiano in Florence, where he remained until 1854, and then came to America, landing in Boston in August, 1855. He appeared in *Rigoletto* at the Academy of Music in New York city, and then took his half sister, Adelina Patti, under his instruction. He taught her for four years and then put her on the stage in the opera of *Martha*, in Philadelphia, at sixteen years of age.

He then traveled in the United States until 1864, when he joined his brother Antonio, who was a music teacher in New York city. The following year he went to Montgomery, Alabama, and remained there until 1868, teaching music. From there he went to Philadelphia, where he remained until his death November 12, 1884, at fifty-seven years of age. His voice was of remarkable power from upper B flat to lower E, and the scores he used to sing in *Gema Macbeth* and other compositions lie idle today, because no one is capable of mastering them."

Catharine Barili, the mother of Ettore Barili and Adelina Patti, was the only woman who was ever permitted to sing in St. Peter's cathedral at Rome. She was also a celebrated artist and several operas were composed in her honor, one being that of *Norma.*

Signor Enrico Barili was born on board a vessel that was leaving the port of Caracas for New York city, and as it was an American ship and sailing under the flag of the United States, he is a citizen of this country by birthright. At five years of age he was

placed under the musical instruction of Alfred Pease, who brought him out at ten years of age at Chickering Hall, New York city, at the concert of Signor Brignolia, where he played a duet with Mr. S. B. Mills, now one of the celebrated pianists of the United States. Leaving New York city, he studied for four years under his father at Montgomery, Alabama, and then pursued the study of vocal music for some time at Philadelphia, where he assisted his father as organist at St. John's church. At the close of his studies in Philadelphia, in 1878, he went on the operatic stage and was with the McCall, and Bennett and Moulton opera companies up to 1886, in which year he abandoned the opera and became organist of St. Peter's cathedral in Wilmington, Delaware, where he remained for three years. He then came to Norristown and accepted his present position as choir master of St. Patrick's Catholic church. In connection with his choir duties, he gives lessons in vocal music to many of the leading society people of Norristown. He is a Democrat and a Catholic and is one of the only three American members of the St. Cecelia Pilharmonic society of Rome. He is also a member of the Verdi Musical association of Philadelphia.

On October 2, 1891, Signor Barili married Margaret McMannus, a sister of Rev. O. P. McMannus.

J. WATSON CRAFT, who is engaged in the coal, lumber and feed business at Ambler, is a son of Jacob and Elizabeth (Detweiler) Craft, and was born in Gwynedd township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, December 1, 1847. He is of English lineage, and John Craft, his paternal grandfather, lived in Whitemarsh township, where he followed farming and did a large amount of wood chopping and land clearing. He married, and his son, Jacob, who was a millwright by trade, went in early life to Gwynedd township, where he was engaged principally in farming. He was an old line Whig and an early Republican, and during the late Civil war served as an internal revenue assessor. He was active in local affairs and held several township offices during his life time. He was born in 1812, was a believer in the faith and practice of the Society of Friends, and died July 27, 1894. Mr. Craft married Elizabeth Detweiler, whose father, Abraham Detweiler, was a resident of Horsham township. Their children were: Mary, wife of Albert G. Rile, of Gwynedd; Angeline, married William S. Funk, a resident of Whitpain township; Alfred, now residing in Norristown; Watson, the subject of this sketch; Annie, wife of Horace G. Van Court, of Philadelphia; and Evan, who died in 1881.

J. Watson Craft was reared on the home farm, and received his education in the district schools, Prof. John W. Loch's academy at Norristown, and the Millersville State normal school. Leaving Millersville, he became a clerk in the Norristown iron works, where he was successfully promoted to time-keeper and foreman, and where he remained for a period of eighteen years. At the end of that time he came to Ambler and bought out the lumber, coal and feed business of Mr. J. B. Stackhouse. His father, Jacob, buying the real estate of Mr. Stackhouse at the same time, which he purchased of the latter in 1889. Since then he has been enlarging his yards and feed establishment, and has built up a good and profitable trade. Mr. Craft has always been a pronounced Republican and a whole-hearted

supporter of his party. He served as the first burgess of Ambler, has been a member of the school board for six years and is serving his third year as treasurer of the borough. He believes in the faith and teachings of the Society of Friends. Identified with the business interests of Ambler, Mr. Craft has always sought to help in its advancement and progress. He is a stockholder and a director of the First National bank of Ambler, which was founded in 1882, and is recognized as a safe and prosperous financial institution, that has benefitted a large section of the county as well as being conducive to the prosperity of the borough.

On May 8, 1872, J. Watson Craft was united in marriage with Mary Griggs, a daughter of T. B. Griggs, a resident of Norristown, Pa. Their union has been blessed with three children: Adele E., E. Frank and J. Watson, jr.

G. S. NICE, of Harleysville, is well known in this county as a general store merchant, who has won prosperity by his uniting zeal and constant attention to business. He is a son of John and Kate (Shoemaker) Nice, and is of strictly American ancestry. He was born on September 15, 1864. His paternal grandfather was William Nice, who was born in Upper Salford township. He was a farmer throughout his life, and was a member of the Mennonite church and was an active Christian. He was a Republican in politics, and always took a lively interest in the workings of his party. He was the father of six children as follows: J. M., A. M., William Mary, Betsy and Sophia. He died at the advanced age of eighty-one years.

The father of G. S. Nice was a farmer and huckster for forty years. He was given a common school education, and then devoted his time to farming. He was a Republican like his father. Eight children were born to him. They were: William, G. S., John, Edwin, Frank, David, Emma and Amelia.

The subject of this sketch was sent to the public schools until he was fifteen years old. He left school and entered a general store, where he rapidly rose and soon owned a business for himself. This young gentleman is a thorough business man and carries a very large and varied stock. He is of the same political faith as his father and grandfather, and is also a member of the Mennonite church. On November 17, 1888, Mr. Nice married Miss Jennie F. Delp, a daughter of Henry C. Delp.

ADAM SCHEIDT, a well known business man, president and general manager of the Adam Scheidt brewing company of Norristown, Pennsylvania, is a son of Adam and Kathrina (Pflueger) Scheidt, and was born in Bavaria, Germany, on February 14, 1854. His father was a miller and grain dealer in the early part of his life, but latterly engaged in the lime business, which he continued until his death, on April 9, 1894. At the time of his death he was in his eighty-sixth year. He was a man of considerable means, and was a member of the Lutheran church, in which he held the office of elder. His marriage resulted in the birth of ten children, seven sons and three daughters.

Adam Scheidt received his education in the public schools of Bavaria, and learned the trade of cooper and brewer. This trade

he followed until he reached the age of twenty-one years. At this time he entered the military service of the German army and served three years. In April, 1878, he left his native country and emigrated to the United States. Shortly after his arrival he located in Norristown, and became associated with his brother Charles in the brewing business. As soon as he familiarized himself with the language of his adopted country, he became a partner and half owner in the brewing business, which was operated under the title of C. & A. Scheidt. This partnership continued until October 7, 1884, at which date his brother died. During the following year Mr. Scheidt continued the sole conductor of the business, and when the interest of his brother in the enterprise was sold, it was purchased by Mr. Scheidt, and continued under his control down to October 7, 1890. At this latter date the business was changed to a stock company, under the name of the Adam Scheidt Brewing company, of which Mr. Scheidt became president and general manager, Michael G. McGrath treasurer, and Edward F. Curren, secretary. A board of directors was organized, consisting of William Little, Patrick Curren, P. McGrath, J. U. Cassel and Amos M. Schultz.

The brewery of the Adam Scheidt Brewing company is a very commodious structure, and has a capacity of sixty thousand barrels. In 1891 the brewery and bottling establishment of A. R. Cox, at the corner of Main and Markley streets, Norristown, was purchased and made an auxiliary business. The facilities of the Adam Scheidt Brewing company are greater than any other in the county, and all kinds of beer, porter, ale, stout and carbonated beverages are marketed.

Aside from the brewing business, Mr. Scheidt is a stockholder in the Albertson Trust company, the Norristown Title, Trust and Safe Deposit company, the First National bank, the Norristown Steel works, the Citizens' Passenger Street Railway company, and various other business industries. Mr. Scheidt is a Republican in politics and a member of several fraternal orders.

On January 28, 1881, Mr. Scheidt was united in marriage with Rosa I. Hindenach, a daughter of Jacob Hindenach, of Norristown, Pennsylvania. Mr. and Mrs. Scheidt have six children: Adam, jr., Harry, Anna, Nina, Helen and Catharine.

Mr. Scheidt is a man of very active and courageous business propensities, and has succeeded in establishing a large and growing business. He is a man of good executive ability and persistent efforts, and ranks with the most enterprising citizens of the county.

JOSEPH E. GRIFFITH, a prosperous farmer of Lower Merion township, is a son of Joseph and Sarah (Noblit) Griffith, and was born in Mechanicsville, Upper Merion township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, July 26, 1842. His paternal grandfather was of German descent, and resided in the lower part of Upper Merion township, where he married and reared a family of two children: Joseph and Mary Boyer.

Joseph Griffith received the limited education that was only within the reach of farmers' sons of his day, and turned his attention to farming, then the main pursuit of those residing beyond the limits of a city. He owned and tilled a farm of one hundred and fifty acres in Lower Merion township, where the subject of this sketch

now resides. Joseph Griffith was an old line Whig, and after the dissolution of the Whig party he became a Republican. He was industrious and frugal, and married Sarah Noblit, who at her death left four children: John H., of East Conshohocken; William Henry, who died when young; Joseph Edward, the subject of this sketch, and Sarah Ann Ferrier, who are twins. After his wife's death, Mr. Griffith wedded Mary Noblit, who soon passed away, and then for his third wife he married Araminta Ellis, by whom he had one child, Ida, who is now attending school.

Joseph Edward Griffith was reared on the home farm and trained to agriculturai pursuits. He attended the common schools of Lower Merion township, and upon attaining his majority, engaged with his father, whom he assisted in farming for several years. He now owns fifty-six acres of the home farm, and in connection with farming runs a large dairy. He disposes of his dairy products largely in the Philadelphia markets. In political opinion Mr. Griffith is a staunch Republican, and has always supported the men and measures of his party. He is active and industrious, a prudent and trustworthy man.

On September 20, 1869, Mr. Griffith married Mary Emily Griffith. Mr. and Mrs. Griffith have one child, a son, named Isaac, who is now assisting his father in farming and dairying.

HENRY SNYDER, a successful retired business man and a representative citizen of Green Lane, is a son of Captain Jacob and Mary (Grobb) Snyder, and was born in Frederick township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, February 10, 1820. His paternal grandfather, Valentine Snyder, was a native of Germany, but when a young man emigrated to the United States and finally settled in Frederick township, where he passed the remainder of his days. He was a blacksmith by trade, and followed that in conjunction with farming all his life. He was a member of the German Reformed church, and married Mary Wagoner, who bore him one son, Jacob Snyder, who was the father of the subject of this sketch. He was born in 1788 upon his father's farm, and resided there for many years, engaged in farming. Subsequently he moved to Spring Mount, where he followed farming for a time, when he removed to Marlborough township. Here he owned and operated the Perkiomen flouring mill the remainder of his active life, dying in July, 1870. Politically he was a Democrat, and religiously he was identified with the German Reformed church. He was an active and zealous worker. For many years he was a deacon in the church, and in fact, filled all the offices in the church organization. He was a brave and valiant soldier of the War of 1812, and served through the earlier war with the rank of captain. Captain Snyder and Mary Grobb were married, and to them were born eight children: Esther Morgan, deceased; Charles, Elizabeth, Stanley Samuel, deceased; Henry, Benjamin, deceased; Isaac and John, deceased.

Henry Snyder obtained such education as the district schools of his day afforded, and remained with his father, employed upon the farm, until twenty-one years of age. After attaining his majority, he learned the millwright trade with Ephraim Haney, of Salford township, this county. Mastering the trade in every detail, and becoming a skilled and proficient artisan, he followed his trade successfully for a period of twenty

years. Subsequently he operated the Perkiomen mills, then owned by his father, for five years. He afterwards purchased a valuable farm of eighty acres in Perkiomenville, and devoted his time and attention to the cultivation of his farm until 1878, when he practically retired from a long, active and successful business career. Since his retirement he has resided at Green Lane, where he occupies a pleasant and commodious home. Like his ancestors, he is a Democrat, and a member of the German Reformed church, in which he takes an active interest. The marital union of Mr. and Mrs. Snyder has been blessed with six children: Milton, a carpenter of Pottstown, this county; Frank, Elizabeth Kramer, Clara, Charles and Jacob.

Mr. Snyder is a public spirited and progressive citizen, and is interested in many of the most substantial financial institutions of his county, among which are: Pennsburg National bank, Montgomery National bank at Norristown, Royersford National bank, and Montgomery Trust company at Norristown. He has been a director in the Perkiomen and Sumneytown turnpike since 1875, and is reputed to be one of the wealthiest citizens of his community.

JONATHAN CLEAVER, of Conshohocken, is prominently known throughout the county as an enterprising plumber, gas and steam fitter and jobbing machinist, with commodious shops on Hector street. He is clearly a self-made man and has worked himself up from a poor boy to a position of honor and trust in the business circles of his town. He was born at King-of-Prussia, this county, on the twenty-fourth of February, 1854, and is a son of Jonathan and Anna Jane (Wood) Cleaver. His people on both sides are Quakers, and are all old residents of Montgomery county, and have contributed not a little to the prosperity of the localities in which they lived.

In the public schools of Chester Valley, Norristown and Conshohocken, Mr. Cleaver secured all the education his parents could afford to give him. He left school to take a position in the rolling mill of J. Wood & Brothers, where he remained several years. Subsequently he learned the plumbing trade at Manayunk, and prior to going into business on his own account, was employed as plumber and gas-fitter for the Albion Print works at Conshohocken. In April, 1886, Mr. Cleaver started in business for himself and has been eminently successful ever since. He has employed as high as twelve journeymen, and his business includes plumbing, gas and steam fitting, house heating and the like, and he has pre-eminently the cream of the trade of Conshohocken. Besides this, he has attached to his plumbing shop, a very complete jobbing machine shop, which is also kept busy all the time, and forms no inconsiderable part of his business enterprise.

Mr. Cleaver is a thorough-going Republican, and takes a prominent part in the local councils of his party and the management of its business. He is a member of Washington Camp No. 121, P. O. S. of A.; Brotherhood No. 10, and Fritz Lodge No. 420, F. & A. M., in all of which he is a leading spirit.

On the twenty-fifth of October, 1883, Mr. Cleaver was married to Kate Shepherd, daughter of Linford and Emily Shepherd, of Gwynedd township. Mr. Shepherd was a farmer and cattle dealer, and was very well off in this world's goods. He was a Republican in politics and held numerous

local offices. He was a member of the I. O. O. F. and K. of P. He was the father of ten children, four of whom are dead. These latter were: Marion, Evelyn, Herbert and Cora. Those living are: Lizzie, Kate, Hester, Eugene, Eulalie and Linford. Four children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Cleaver: Francis and Emily are dead, and William and Jonathan, jr., are still living. Mrs. Cleaver's father died March 15, 1894, at the advanced age of seventy-three years, and her mother still lives.

NICHOLAS HENRY LARZELERE, a prominent lawyer of Norristown, is a son of Benjamin and Mary (Maxwell) Larzelere, and was born in Warminister township, Bucks county, Pennsylvania, March 7, 1851. His trans atlantic paternal ancestry is traced back to the days of Louis XIV, the "Grand Monarque," who shone in a light reflected from his great ministers, without whose councils and labors he could not have stood a single month. For apparent political reasons of import, Louis XIV, on October 22, 1685, revoked the Edict of Nantes, and thereby lost France half a million of Huguenots, who were among the kingdom's best citizens. Among the emigrant Huguenots was Nicholas Larzelere, sr., and his brother John, who made their first home in the new world on Long Island. Nicholas afterward became a resident of Staten Island, and Nicholas, jr., the eldest of his four children, removed, in 1741, to Lower Makefield township, Bucks county, where he died at eighty-four years of age. His family consisted of eight children, and the eldest son, named Nicholas, was born on Staten Island, in 1734, and died in 1814. He was a soldier in the Revolutionary war, married Hannah Britton, of Bristol, and removed into Bensalem township, Bucks county, where he purchased a large tract of land and reared a family of ten children. His youngest son, Britton, born in 1782, fought in the War of 1812, and died in 1878, at ninety-six years of age, while his eldest son, Benjamin, married Sarah Brown, of Bristol township, and died at eighty-four years of age, on the farm he purchased in that township, and on which the present borough of Bristol is partly built. Benjamin had eight children, and his eldest son, Nicholas, in 1825, came to Abington township, this county, where he died at sixty-seven years of age. He married Esther Berrell, a daughter of Colonel Jeremiah Berrell, and reared a family of twelve children. Of his twelve children, the second son was Benjamin, the father of the subject of this sketch. Benjamin Larzelere was born in 1826, and is still living. He married Mary Maxwell, eldest daughter of Henry and Ann (Buskirk) Maxwell, of Moreland township. Mrs. Maxwell was a daughter of Jacob Buskirk, whose father came from Holland and married Elizabeth Lawrence, eldest daughter of Jonathan Lawrence, who was the eldest son of John and Mary Lawrence, who came from England to the colony of Massachusetts in 1713. Mary Lawrence was a daughter of Charles Townley, of Lancashire, England, the genealogy of whose family ran back to the days of Henry VIII.

Nicholas Henry Larzelere was reared on his father's farm, received his elementary education in the common schools, and was prepared for college at Doylestown English and Classical seminary. He entered the freshman class of Lafayette college in 1871, and was graduated from that well known institution in 1875. During his junior year

he won first honor in the oratorical contest between Franklin and Washington Halls, and in the senior year was the representative of Lafayette college to the inter-collegiate oratorical contest of Amherst, Princeton, Williams, Cornell, New York, Columbia and Lafayette colleges, which took place in the Academy of Music, New York City, January 13, 1875. Leaving college, he read law with Hon. George Ross, of Bucks county, and afterward with Hon. B. Markley Boyer, of Norristown. He was admitted to the bar of Montgomery county on September 28, 1877, and soon gained a foremost place in the ranks of his profession. Among the earlier cases in which he won distinction were: Bradfield et al., vs. Insurance company; Commonwealth vs. Gaffey, manslaughter; and in the matter of freeing the DeKalb street bridge at Norristown, after one of the most stubborn contests ever waged in the courts of the county.

In politics Mr. Larzelere is a Democrat, but having early made choice of the legal profession, he has given his entire attention to it with the fidelity that belongs to his nature. He is an able lawyer and well versed in his profession, in which he has gained prominence and distinction.

GEORGE W. ROGERS, ESQ., who for many years has practiced at the Norristown bar, and has twice been the candidate of his party for the office of law judge of his district, is the eldest son of David and Cynthia (Watson) Rogers, and a native of Warrington, Bucks county, Pennsylvania, where he was born June 15, 1829. The family is descended from English Puritan stock, and removed to Pennsylvania from Connecticut, where Dr. David Rogers, paternal great-grandfather of the subject of this sketch, was born and resided all his life. One of his sons was General William Charles Rogers (grandfather), who was born in Connecticut May 28, 1776, and when a young man removed to Philadelphia, where at the age of twenty he married Mary Hiltzheimer, a daughter of Hon. Jacob Hiltzheimer, at one time a member of Congress from Pennsylvania. She was born March 16, 1771, in the house where Jefferson wrote the Declaration of Independence, corner of Seventh and Market streets, Philadelphia, then owned by her father and in possession of his descendants until 1874. In early life William Charles Rogers followed the sea, sailing from Philadelphia to China in the merchant marine service. He served with distinction in the War of 1812, holding the rank of brigadier general, and cammanding the volunteer militia stationed at Marcus Hook as a protection to Philadelphia and ports on the Delaware against British invasion. In later life he devoted himself to agricultural pursuits, and served for many years as a justice of the peace in Bucks county, this State.

By his marriage to Mary Hiltzheimer he had a family of nine children, five of whom grew to maturity and among whom were: Jacob H., who served for a quarter of a century as justice of the peace in Bucks county; Gen. William F., a resident of Doylestown, who served two terms as a member of the senate of Pennsylvania, during part of which time he occupied the speaker's chair; David Rogers, who was the father of the subject of this sketch. David Rogers was born in Warrington township, Bucks county, this State, in 1800, and after securing a good practical education, engaged in agricultural pursuits, first at Warrington, then at Pleasantville,

on the county line between Bucks and Montgomery counties. Here he followed farming until 1858, when he removed to Norristown, where he died. He was a Jacksonian Democrat in politics, and held a number of local offices, while in religion he was a strict Presbyterian. He married Cynthia Watson, a daughter of Benjamin and Hannah Watson, of Bucks county, and by that union had a family of three children: George W., whose name introduces this sketch; William C., who became a physician and surgeon, and afterwards served for a time as surgeon on the steamship *Illinois* between Philadelphia and Liverpool; and Mary, who married Henry Hibbs, of Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania.

Mrs. Rogers' father, Benjamin Watson, was a member of General Morgan's riflemen during the Revolutionary war, and participated in the battles of Brandywine, Germantown, Trenton, Stony Point, Cowpens, and other historic struggles. He was discharged at Charleston, South Carolina, when the Revolution closed, and on account of not being paid, was compelled to walk all the way from there to Philadelphia. At Germantown he was one of those detailed by General Washington to apprehend and execute the Tories, who were betraying American soldiers to the British, and assisted in hanging one such near Montgomery Square. He died at the age of seventy-seven, and was interred at Neshaminy Presbyterian church, Bucks county.

George W. Rogers was reared principally in Montgomery county, receiving his elementary education in the public schools, and afterward attending a private classical school in Bucks county. He then began teaching and was thus employed for a period of three years, when, in 1852, he turned his attention to the law, and began his preparation for the bar under the instruction of Hon. Joseph Fornance. The latter died, however, before the course was finished, and Mr. Rogers completed his reading with Hon. David Krause, at one time president judge of Montgomery county. He was admitted to the bar February 24, 1854, and immediately began practice at Norristown. During the same year he was elected burgess of Norristown, and in the fall of 1856 was elected to the position of district attorney, the duties of which office he ably discharged for a period of three years. As attorney for the Commonwealth and in his private practice, he evinced an energy in the prosecution of law cases, and an aptness for handling witnesses on the stand, which brought him into prominence and gave him standing as a leading practitioner. In 1874 he was made a candidate of his party for additional law judge of his judicial district, composed of Bucks and Montgomery counties, but was defeated by Judge Watson, of Bucks county, in a very close contest. In 1888 he was a candidate for the same position in the district comprising Montgomery county alone, but was again defeated, owing to his party being largely in the minority. He is a member of the American Bar association, and of the Lawyer's club of Philadelphia.

During the course of his long practice, now extending over a period of more than forty years, he has been connected with many noted trials, among which may be mentioned the cause of Alfred Hopkins, indicted for manslaughter as conductor of the wrecked excursion train on the North Pennsylvania railroad; Kilby Bayletts, arraigned for the murder of his wife; and Blasius and John Pistorius, jointly indicted for the murder of James Jacquett, the latter of whom was acquitted, while the

Joseph A Strahan

former was twice sentenced to be hanged, but the sentence was finally commuted to imprisonment for life. In conducting these and other important cases, which were local sensations of the day, Mr. Rogers displayed the ability that makes the superior lawyer, and won a lasting reputation.

Four years after his admission to the bar, on July 1, 1858, Mr. Rogers was united in marriage to Cara C. Bean, only daughter of Jesse and Mary Bean, of Norristown, Pennsylvania. To them was born a family of four children, three sons and a daughter: Cara, married Clarence L. Blakeley, of Verplank, New York; D. Ogden, who was educated at Dr. Loch's Treemount seminary and Lafayette college, being graduated from the latter in the class of 1882, after which he studied law with his father, was admitted to the bar in 1883, and died December 25, 1894; G. Austin, died February 1, 1877; and Jesse B., who was graduated in June, 1895, from Elmira college, Elmira, New York.

George W. Rogers has always been a Democrat, believing implicitly in popular government and opposed to centralization or usurpation in governmental affairs. While taking an intelligent interest in public questions, and in all civil matters, he has nevertheless preferred to devote his attention mainly to his profession rather than to modern politics. He is president of the Albertson Trust and Safe Deposit company of Norristown, and a member of the Masonic fraternity, being connected with Hutchinson Commandery, Knights Templar, of Norristown. He and Mrs. Rogers have for many years been members of the First Presbyterian church of Norristown, in which she is an active worker and he a liberal supporter of its various religious and charitable interests.

REV. JOSEPH A. STRAHAN, rector of the Church of the Immaculate Conception of Jenkintown, was born in Philadelphia on June 2, 1849, and is a son of William H. and Mary (Martin) Strahan. For the past three years he has been stationed at Jenkintown, where he is beloved by his parishoners and esteemed by the whole community. He has had a very active and a very remarkable career in the priestoood, and has been a most successful worker in building up large congregations. His original paternal ancestor was a native of Arcadia, Nova Scotia, and his grandfather was Joseph Strahan, who lived in Philadelphia and carried on the business of carpenter and builder many years. Prior to the late war, back in the thirties, he was a colonel in the Pennsylvania militia, and was a very active worker. He was celebrated as a tenor singer, and was not only a trustee of St. Mary's church, of Philadelphia, but was also the leading tenor of the choir in his day. He married Catharine Potter, and they had four children.

William Henry Strahan, father of our subject, resided in Philadelphia all his life. After leaving school, he learned the trade of machinist and has carried on that work ever since, working in Southwork foundry much of the time. He is a thorough Catholic and prominent in church work. In 1845 he married Mary Martin, and eight children were born to them. Of these five died in extreme infancy. Those now living are: Mary, Regina, and our subject. The parents are still living.

Rev. Joseph A. Strahan's life was early devoted to the cause of Christ, and his education was mapped out in a way to thoroughly equip him for the noble work. He was sent to the parochial schools of St. Phillips parish in Philadelphia, and then to

the school of the Christian Brothers of St. Michael. On leaving here he entered St. Charles preparatory seminary at Glen Riddle, Delaware county, and then to the seminary of St. Charles Borromeo at Overbrook, where he became an earnest student for priestly orders. He was ordained as a priest in 1872, and was immediately appointed curate at St. James' church, West Philadelphia, remaining there eleven months. He then went to South Bethlehem, Church of the Holy Infancy, where he remained as assistant about two years. He was next transferred to the Church of the Visitation in Philadelphia as curate, and after one year was sent to St. Dominick's, at Holmesburg. Here he remained only a short time, when he was called back to the Church of the Visitation, where he was located eight years. At the end of that time Father Strahan was appointed pastor of St. Leo's parish, Tacony, and was commissioned to erect a church. This was really opening a new parish, and his work was crowned with magnificent success. He remained as pastor of St. Leo's for eight years, when the archbishop deemed his services and experience needful in Jenkintown. He was accordingly appointed rector of the Church of the Immaculate Conception, where he remained ever since, the spiritual guardian of a large and very prosperous congregation.

JACOB H. FAUST, farmer and butter manufacturer of Sumneytown, this county, was born January 31, 1838, in Frederick township, this county, and is a son of Jacob and Sarah (Hauck) Faust. His grandfather, John Nicholas Faust, was a native of Germany, whence he emigrated to the United States and settled in Frederick township, Montgomery county, where he spent the remainder of his days pursuing agriculture as a means of securing a livelihood. He was a Democrat in political principle, and a consistent member of the German Reformed church. His marriage resulted in the birth of the following children: Jacob, John, Peter, Kate and Polly.

Jacob Faust (father), was born in Frederick township, in 1798, and died in the same locality on June 12, 1860. He was reared on his father's farm and followed farming all his life. He married Sarah Hauck, and they have four sons and five daughters.

Jacob H. Faust had very limited educational advantages. The subscription school system was the system in existence during his school boy days, and as the schools were usually poorly taught by incompetent teachers, a knowledge of the primary branches was about all he obtained. He remained with his father until about twenty years of age and then learned the tinsmithing trade, and followed it at Perkiomenville for a term of five years. He then purchased a farm consisting of seventy-six acres, where he now lives, and for fifteen years, in connection with farming, engaged rather extensively in dealing in horses and cattle. In 1885 he established a creamery at Perkiomenville, which he operated for a short time, and later founded a like enterprise at Sigmond Furnace, Lehigh county, which he has operated to the present time, and, in 1894, still further expanded his interests in this line by building a creamery at Butztown, Northampton county. In connection with his agricultural pursuits, he operates a dairying business, keeping about twenty cows. He is an elder in the German Reformed church at Sumneytown,

and a Democrat politically. He is a staunch supporter and friend of the common schools and has served as a member and secretary of the school board at Sumneytown since 1883. He is prominent and popular in fraternal circles, being a member in good standing of the following orders: Perkiomenville Lodge No. 367, I. O. O. F.; Zieglersville Lodge, Knights of Pythias; and the Order of Pento, at Sumneytown.

On August 20, 1886, he married Sarah Underkoppler, a daughter of Henry and Rachel (Jones) Underkoppler, a farmer of Frederick township, this county. The children born of this marital union are: Elias, who is engaged in the creamery business with his father in Lehigh county; Lizzie R., who was formerly a teacher, and is now the wife of John Null, of Northampton county; William, deceased; Jacob N., a teacher by profession, now attending a business college; Henry, deceased; Catharine H., at home, a teacher; Ida, Carrie, Sarah, deceased; and one that died in infancy.

HON. SAMUEL FAUST, ex-member of the Pennsylvania legislature, is a son of Peter and Margaret (Nece) Faust, and was born October 9, 1828, in Frederick township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania. That period in the educational history of the State extending from the adoption of the free school system to the consummation of the Civil war, is one of great importance, and one who witnessed the transitions of this period from the old subscription school system to the present magnificent system of free schools, is he whose name heads this sketch. He obtained an elementary education in the subscription schools, and then further broadened and perfected his mental training by attending Freeland seminary, now Ursinus college, of Collegeville, this county. He was one of the first pupils of that famous institution, and assisted in suspending the bell in the belfry. Freeland seminary in that day was one of the most popular institutions of learning in this section of Pennsylvania, and many men who afterward became prominent in the professional, political and industrial history of the county, as men of culture, power and influence, received their mental training within its walls.

Mr. Faust attended this institution three terms, and being apt in his studies and possessing a wonderfully retentive memory, acquired a vast fund of information and laid broad and deep the foundations for his future success. Leaving school, he was well prepared for the profession of teaching, and taught three years under the curriculum of the old subscription schools prior to the adoption of the present free school system, and twelve years under the latter system, making in all fifteen years. He soon made a reputation as an instructor and a fine disciplinarian, and was much sought after to take charge of schools, the teaching of which required the highest order of executive ability and the display of the greatest professional skill. His consent to teach the last few years, was given only after being earnestly importuned by those who knew his rare genius, and who desired that their children might profit by his training. He holds a certificate, granted by E. L. Acker, the first county superintendent of Montgomery county. In all matters that tended to increase the efficiency of the teachers and to elevate teaching to the dignity of a profession and to present in a more favorable light the free school system, towards which there then existed a prejudice in the minds

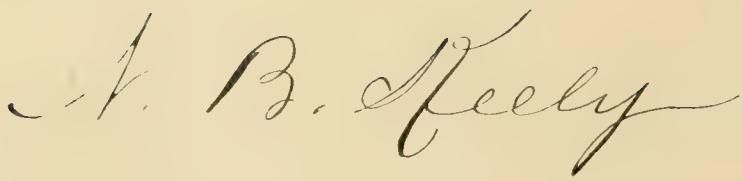
of many of our most substantial citizens, he was ever active and enthusiastic.

Since he quit teaching, he has devoted his attention to the arts of husbandry, in which noble calling he has shown a no less progressive spirit than as a teacher. He owns one hundred and thirty acres of good arable land, well improved and productive, and was one of the first in the township to introduce labor saving machinery as a farm adjunct, bringing the first mowing machine into the township. Politically Mr. Faust has always been a Republican, in the caucuses and councils of which party he is active and influential. He is a reader and a thinker, and keeps well posted on the current political measures of the day, as well as on the political principles of those who figure most conspicuously in them. In 1884 he was elected a member of the Pennsylvania assembly, and at the end of his first term was endorsed by a re-election. His course in that body was such as commended him to all interested. He was ever active to the interests of his constituents, and guarded faithfully the general welfare of the Commonwealth at large. Among the bills passed while in that body, and to the passage of which he gave the weight of his influence were: The high license law and the bill requiring physiology and hygiene to be taught in the public schools as a part of the regular common school curriculum.

On November 12, 1856, Mr. Faust married Mary Sweisford, a daughter of Henry Sweisford, and the following children bless their union: Alfred, Esther, died young; James, Sarah, the wife of Noah Krause; Catharine, Alice, who wedded George Erb; Clara, Samuel, died young; Margaret, Tennyson, died young; Samuel and Elizabeth.

WILLIAM CLEAVER, of Conshohocken, is a direct descendant of old line Friend or Quaker stock, and comes from one of the oldest of the county families. He is at present a superintendent in the Alan Wood company's works, and holds a responsible position. He is also a man of considerable public repute, and is respected and esteemed by all of his constituents. He is a son of Jonathan and Anna Jane (Wood) Cleaver, and was born in Plymouth township, this county, on the first of July, 1852. He is the namesake of his paternal grandfather, who was a resident of Chester county. He was the owner of a large farm, which he worked with profit for many years. At the time of his death he was a resident of King of Prussia, this county. He was a member of the Society of Friends, and a stern Whig in political faith. He married Jane Thauar, of Lower Merion, and this union was blessed by the following offspring: Mary, Jonathan, father of the subject of this sketch; William, Rebecca and Charles.

Jonathan Cleaver, father of William, was born in Chester county September 21, 1825. He received a common school education, and attended the West Chester academy. He engaged in farming in his native county after leaving school, and afterwards purchased a farm in Plymouth township, Montgomery county. This farm contained one hundred acres, and was located near Conshohocken. He sold the farm and returned to Chester Valley, where he remained until 1857, when he removed to Centreville, Chester county, and retired from active pursuits. Still, not satisfied with his residence, he again removed, this time to the historic Valley Forge, where he settled on a farm and occupied for his home the house that had been the headquarters during that



memorable severe winter of the Revolution of a prominent general. Here he lived until 1862, when he died. His remains were interred in the Friends' burying ground in Chester Valley. He was a Whig, and afterwards a Republican in politics. His marriage was productive of six children, three sons and three daughters: Anna W., the wife of Jonas Everhardt; William, the subject of this sketch; Jonathan, married to Kate Sheppard; Mary, who married John DeHaven, and is dead; B. Harry, who died at the age of eight years; and Jennie, who intermarried with J. Ellwood Lee, of Conshohocken.

William Cleaver was sent to the public schools until he was thirteen years old, and then was placed in the rolling mill of J. Wood & Brothers, at Conshohocken, where he remained until 1876 and mastered the details of that business. He then entered the employ of the North Penn railroad and continued with that company for three years, resigning his position at the end of that time to return to Conshohocken and embark in the flour and feed business. In 1881 he again returned to his early occupation, and associated himself with the Alan Wood company as shipping clerk. He worked his way upward and was made assistant manager of the West Flue mill.

A Republican in politics, Mr. Cleaver is one of the hard workers of his party in his town, and his services have been recognized, for he was elected to serve a three year term in the school board by a large majority.

He was married January 16, 1889, to Emma L. DeHaven, daughter of John and Mary DeHaven, who live at "The Old Gulf Mills," this county. They have two children: Fannie E. and Mary L. The family attend the Episcopalian church of Conshohocken.

NATHANIEL BEIDEMAN KEELY, the popular and enterprising proprietor of the "Keely House," at East Greenville, this county, is the eldest son of Charles and Caroline (Beideman) Keely, and was born October 21, 1852, at Boyertown, Berks county, Pennsylvania. Mr. Keely comes of a substantial and sturdy German ancestry. William Keely, great-grandfather, lived in Perkiomen township, near Schwenksville, this county, where he followed for a livelihood the tailoring trade. Here he reared his family, one of whom, grandfather, Isaac Keely, was born and grew to manhood, subsequently removed to Boyertown, Berks county, and thence removed to East Greenville and resided latterly and at his death with our subject. He was a Democrat, and a member of the New Goshenhoppen Reformed church. He married Sarah Prutzman, and their children were: Charles, father; Joseph, Frederick, John, Harriet, Jacob, dead; Nathaniel B., dead; two others died in infancy without name. Grandfather Keely died at the age of eighty years.

Charles Keely (father), was a man of limited education, such as the crude educational system provided for that day. For a short duration in early life, he followed the bricklaying trade, and subsequently for several years followed huckstering to Philadelphia, prior to the advent of railroads, to that part of the county. In 1865 he leased the hotel our subject now owns, which he conducted up to his death, February 7, 1874. He was a staunch Democrat in his political faith, and always took an active interest generally in local political matters, and held numerous minor local offices. In his society affiliations he was a member of Pennsburg Lodge No. 449, I. O. O. F.; Greenville Lodge No. 232, Knights of Py-

thias; and Jr. O. U. A. M., at Quakertown. Religiously, he was a member of the New Goshenhoppen Reformed church.

He married Caroline Beideman, a daughter of George and Catharine Beideman, and had four children, the eldest of whom was our subject, Nathaniel B., Henry B., who is a huckster, residing at East Greenville, this county; Horace B., a hotel-keeper in Philadelphia; and a daughter, still-born. The father died February 7, 1874, at forty-three years of age, and the mother of the subject died at sixty-three years of age.

Nathaniel B. Keely received his educational training in various public and pay schools and the celebrated Washington hall academy at the Trappe, this county. After leaving school, he taught in the public schools of East Greenville and Pennsburg for seven terms, and as a teacher was considered efficient and deservedly popular. In 1876 he was induced by his friends to accept the office of justice of the peace of East Greenville, but after serving a short time he removed from the borough and was obliged to resign his position. He subsequently leased and ran the Salfordville hotel for one and one-half years. In 1879 he purchased his present hotel, the Keely house, formerly conducted by his father. Since purchasing the hotel, Mr. Keely has made valuable improvements upon the property, which in its various appointments and conveniences, its general architecture and plumbing, give it a place among the foremost country hotels of the county. It is fitted up with all the most improved methods of heating and lighting, and possesses all of those appurtenent conveniences so highly appreciated by hotel patrons. Mr. Keely is a Democrat in his political allegiance. Recognizing his fitness for the duties of the office, he was twice elected a member of the school board of East Greenville. He has taken an active part in the interest and success of the party, and has served as a delegate to both county and State conventions. He is a member of Perkiomen Lodge No. 595, F. & A. M.; Pottstown Chapter No. 271; Nativity Commandery No. 71, at Pottstown; Greenville Lodge No. 232, Knights of Pythias; Pennsburg Lodge No. 449, I. O. O. F.; Pennsburg Encampment No. 234, I. O. O. F.; and East Greenville Castle No. 298, K. of G. E. He is also a member of St. Luke's Lutheran church, at Pennsburg, and served as deacon for four years. Mr. Keely has been twice married. On November 17, 1876, he wedded Sallie K., a daughter of David Stoneback, a powder manufacturer aud ex-member of the assembly, residing at Zeiglersville, this county. To Mr. and Mrs. Keely have been born four children: Bertha Geneva, Charles Winfield, Wallace Montgomery, and Sallie S., who died in infancy.

His first wife died April 19, 1885, at the age of twenty-seven years, ten months and twenty-four days. On May 31, 1887, he was united with Mary E., a daughter of John B. Trumbauer, a farmer of Quakertown, Bucks county, Pennsylvania. This union has been blessed with three children: Allen Thurman, Henry Nathaniel and Augusta Jane. H. Nathaniel died in infancy.

Mr. Keely, as a host is affable and congenial, always striving to have his guests feel at home. He possesses a rare adaptability that eminently fits him for the very efficient discharge of his hotel business. Enterprising, ambitious, and thoroughly alive to the interests of the borough, he is always found in the front rank in support of the various movements of enterprise.

HON. HENRY D. SAYLOR, a member of the Pennsylvania State senate, from the Twelfth senatorial district, is a son of Albert G. and Mary A. (Oberholtzer) Saylor, and was born at Pottstown, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, October 22, 1857. The Saylors are of German descent and were among the early settlers of the Perkiomen valley. Henry Saylor, the paternal grandfather of Senator Saylor, was a farmer, who attended the Philadelphia markets for many years, and lived to a ripe old age. His remains sleep beside those of his father, Henry Saylor, in the Trappe cemetery. Henry Saylor was an active Democrat of the Andrew Jackson type and had been a member, for many years, of the Evangelical Lutheran church, in which he held different official positions. He married Mary Grove and his son, Albert G. Saylor (father), was born on the home farm in Limerick township, November 16, 1826. After obtaining a fair education for that day, Albert G. Saylor left the farm and became a clerk successively in a store at Douglassville, Berks county, Pa., with Henry McKenty, and with Daniel H. Beecher, of Pottstown, Pa. In 1848 he left Mr. Beecher's employ and afterwards, after clerking for Frederick Bickel and his successor, Umstead Wells, embarked in the dry goods business at Pottstown, Pa., in March, 1850, which he continued up to 1884, when he retired from active life. He has dealt largely in real estate, being reputed for years as one of the best judges of land in his part of the county. He has always taken an active interest in the industrial enterprises of his borough, and ever favored progressive measures for improvement. He is a member and official of the Lutheran church, of whose Sunday school he was superintendent for a number of years.

Mr. Saylor is a Democrat of independent proclivities and has generally supported the presidential candidates of his party except in 1860 and 1864, when he cast his ballot for Abraham Lincoln, and afterward for Grant and Garfield. He is one of the oldest living members of Manatawny Lodge No. 214, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and to-day is one of the few survivors of those who organized the lodge. Mr. Saylor married Mary A. Oberholtzer, and to their union were born two children: Mary A., who died when young, and Hon. Henry D. Mrs. Saylor, who died April 17, 1869, aged forty-three years, was a daughter of Henry D. Oberholtzer, who came from Ohio and one time served as a State senator in the Ohio legislature.

Henry D. Saylor was reared in his native town, received his education in the Pottstown public and high schools, and assisted his father in the dry goods business for a couple of years. He then resolved upon the profession of law as a life vocation, and entered the law department of the University of Pennsylvania from which he was graduated in June, 1882. While attending the university he read law with Thomas J. Ashton and E. Coppee Mitchell, commencing with Thomas J. Ashton, and after his death, completing his course with said E. Coppee Mitchell. Upon the completion of his office studies, in 1882, he was admitted to the Philadelphia bar, and went to New York city, where he was assistant to John O. Byrne, Esq., assistant district attorney, until the death of his sister called him home. He then opened an office at Pottstown, where he has continued in active practice ever since. He was a law partner for a short time with Hon. Irving P. Wanger, present member of congress from the Seventh district; and served for a few months

as assistant district attorney. He also served, from 1891 to 1893, as borough solicitor for Pottstown, and during his term of office he had an act of assembly passed providing for the condemnation of turnpike roads in boroughs, under which he had the Perkiomen and Reading turnpike road condemned within the limits of Pottstown, and under other court proceedings had it subsequently widened. Mr. Saylor is solicitor for the Security company, the National Iron bank of Pottstown, and a number of other corporations both in and out of Montgomery county. He is a member of the Lutheran church of the Transfiguration; Stichter Lodge No. 254, Free and Accepted Masons; and Manatawny Lodge No. 214, Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

On October 15, 1885, Mr. Saylor united in marriage with Dora B. Gerhard, daughter of G. Wilmore and Kate H. Gerhard, of Norristown. Senator and Mrs. Saylor have two children: Albert G., and Harold D.

In politics Senator Saylor has always been a staunch, enthusiastic and hard working Republican. He became interested in political affairs before he was a voter, and has followed closely the trend of political parties ever since. He was elected a member of the borough council of Pottstown in 1885 and re-elected in 1888, serving six years in all. When his time was out in 1891 he was made borough solicitor, which position he held until 1894. In the meantime, in September, 1893, he became a candidate for the Republican nomination for State senator. The contest for the nomination was one of the most markedly significant struggles that ever occurred in the county, and lasted for a year. When the convention assembled in September, 1894, Mr. Saylor was nominated, and in the ensuing November election, he was elected by a majority of two thousand two hundred and ninety-nine votes, the largest ever given a senatorial candidate in the district. In the session of the Pennsylvania legislature of 1895, Senator Saylor served as a member of the senatorial committees on accounts, appropriations, education, insurance, game and fisheries, judicial general, judicial local, judicial apportionment, railroads, vice and immorality.

WILLIAM C. WEBER, who was one of the prosperous farmers and highly respected citizens of Norriton township, was a son of Christian and Charlotte (Casselberry) Weber, and was born in Lower Providence township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, November 30, 1826. The Weber and Casselberry families were settled in eastern Pennsylvania at an early day and their pioneer members were subjected to many of the privations incident to new world settlement on the provincial frontier.

William C. Weber received his elementary education in the last of the old subscription and the earliest of the common schools, and then took a two year's course at the Norristown seminary, in order to fit himself for the arduous duties of teaching. He taught his first school in Montgomery county, and then went to Columbus, Ohio, where he was engaged in teaching for two years. At the end of that time he returned to his native county, and as teaching was not so remunerative an employment as farming, he embarked in the latter occupation and farmed on the place of his uncle John Weber, in Norriton township. He then purchased from James Smith a farm of forty acres in Lower Providence township,

which he tilled successfully for four years. At the end of that time, in 1865, his father died, and he sold his farm in order to assume the management of the homestead on which he resided for seven years; he then removed to Chester county, where he conducted the farm of his father-in-law, Isaac Walker, from 1873 to 1888. In the latter year he returned to the homestead farm in Norriton township, three miles west of Norristown, and resided there until the time of his death, which occurred January 24, 1894. His remains were entombed in the Centennial Presbyterian church cemetery, and his familiar face and form are sadly missed in the circle of his wide acquaintance. He was a Republican in politics, and had served two years as treasurer of the school board and two terms as township assessor and collector in Chester county. He united with the Presbyterian church at twelve years of age and for over half a century had been a zealous and consistent member. Two years before his death he was elected to the eldership, whose every duty he faithfully performed until he was called from time to eternity. He had also served efficiently as a Sunday school superintendent and was active in every field of church work.

On February 22, 1855, William C. Weber married Hannah Walker, a daughter of Isaac and Elizabeth (Beidler) Walker, who were natives of this county. To Mr. and Mrs. Weber were born eight sons and seven daughters: Laura F., and Elizabeth W., who are deceased; William H., senior member of the firm of Weber Bros., engaged in the wall paper and painting business at Norristown; Charlotte A., wife of Prof. William H. Walker, of Chester county; John C., connected in business with the Philadelphia Traction company; Winfield S., junior member of the firm of Weber Bros., of Norristown; Isaac W., deceased; Elmina S., wife of Clayton B. Lamb, of Mount Holly; Joseph, deceased; Mary F., now teaching at Iron Bridge, this county; Ella C., Charles, now residing at the homestead with his mother; G. Norwood, now in business in Philadelphia; Emma W. a successful teacher in the public schools; and James Wells.

HORATIO L. YOCUM, a descendant of one of the oldest families of the State, is a son of Lieutenant George P. and Mary (Litzenberg) Yocum, and was born at Ardmore, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, July 31, 1870. The Yocum family is of Swedish descent, and was founded near the site of Philadelphia, when the country along the Delaware was known as New Sweden, and several years before Penn's purchase of Pennsylvania. Peter Yocum came from Sweden and settled first at Wiaco, near the site of Philadelphia, but after Penn laid out his capitol city, he removed to Swedes Ford, where he was an active and prominent man. He was supervisor of highways from Karker's Mills to the Falls of the Schuylkill, and was undoubtedly the Peter Yocum whose name appears in the assessment list of 1734. This Peter Yocum, the younger, was the father of Andrew Yocum, born in 1739, and whose son, John Yocum, born in 1766, resided on the Phillips farm, near West Conshohocken. John Yocum married a Miss Brook, and their son, Benjamin Brook Yocum, was born in 1801, and died in 1868. He was a farmer and cattle dealer, and held numerous township offices. He was an old line Whig and a staunch Republican, and married Harriet Hagy, who was born in 1801.

They had eight children: Hannah, J. Hagy, John, Emily, Crawford, George P., Dr. Benjamin and Isaac D.

Lieutenant George P. Yocum was born in Lower Merion township, attended the schools of his neighborhood, and was a law student at Norristown, when the late Civil war commenced. That great struggle called men from every walk and profession of life into military service, and he was one that took up arms in defense of the Union. He enlisted in the Pennsylvania cavalry, and served until the close of the war, being promoted to lieutenant. He was in numerous battles, fell into the hands of the enemy, and was confined in Andersonville prison for nine months before being paroled. After the close of the war he returned to Norristown, where he was in the general mercantile business for several years. He then removed to Ardmore and assumed charge of the Red Lion hotel, which he conducted from 1874 up to his death, on April 3, 1879, aged thirty-six years. He was a large property owner in Montgomery and Chester counties, had extensive coal and lumber yards, and was active and energetic in all of the numerous enterprises in which he was interested. He was a Republican in politics, had served as a member and president of the Lower Merion school board, and was a member of Cassia Lodge No. 273 Free and Accepted Masons of Ardmore. He was liberal and generous, and on October 9, 1867, wedded Mary Litzenberg, a daughter of Horatio Litzenberg, of Ardmore. They had three children: Frederick, who died in childhood; Horatio L. and Charles C.

Horatio L. Yocum was reared at Ardmore, received his education in the public schools and the Friends' high school of Philadelphia, and then entered Pierce's Business college, from which he was graduated in 1892. Leaving college, he served as book-keeper for one year, and then came back to Ardmore, where he has resided ever since. Mr. Yocum is a staunch Republican, and an active member of the Lower Merion Baptist church.

On March 20, 1894, Mr. Yocum was united in marriage with Emily Clark, a daughter of William J. Clark, of Ardmore. Their union has been blessed with one child, a son named Horace Clark.

DR. JONATHAN FAUST, a popular general practitioner of medicine and a skilled eye specialist of Zeiglersville, this county, is a son of Peter and Margaret (Nece) Faust, and was born May 18, 1842, in New Hanover township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania. The paternal great-grandfather of Dr. Jonathan Faust was Peter Faust, a native of Germany, who, seeking to escape the crowded economic conditions of his native country, came to the United States in the year 1747. He located in Frederick township, this county, being one of the earlier settlers of the county. One of his sons was John Nicholas Faust, the grandfather of the subject of this biographical sketch.

John Nicholas Faust was born in Frederick township in 1765, and settled in the township of his nativity, where he pursued farming with success and profit until his death, in the year 1837. Like his father, he was a member of the German Reformed church, in the work of which he always took a commendable interest. He wedded Elizabeth Walwent, and they became the parents of the following children: Elizabeth, who became the wife of George

Gruber; Peter, Jacob, John, Catharine, who wedded Thomas Yost; and Mary, who married Jacob Levis.

Peter Faust (father), was born about one mile west of Perkiomenville, in Frederick township, on October 8, 1794, and died January 29, 1875. His school boy days marked a period in the educational history of the State many years before the adoption of the present common school system, when a very crude system of subscription schools existed, taught by incompetent teachers in the primitive log school houses of that day. Hence his scholastic training was limited. He was a man of considerable mechanical skill, and during his life-time followed a number of avocations, showing his versatile genius. He first learned the trade of a reed-maker, later followed stone masoning for a time, and still later took up farming in what is now New Hanover township, this county. He was a devout and consistent member of the Reformed church, in which he held the office of elder, and took a deep and enthusiastic interest in every move which had for its object the betterment of the conditions of the community and the promotion of the welfare of society at large. Every reform movement found in him a warm friend and a devoted advocate. He was a very strong believer in the Sunday-school as a potent adjunct and nursery to the church, was one of its founders in his community, and uniformly molded his life in accord with the belief, well grounded in his mind, that intemperance was an appalling evil. He served three months in the War of 1812, our second struggle for national freedom, being stationed at Wilmington, Delaware. He married Margaret, a daughter of Abraham Nece, who was formerly a resident of Tinicum, Bucks county, but who later located in New Hanover township, this county. Their children were as follows: Samuel, whose sketch follows; Jesse, born October 13, 1830, now deceased; Margaret, wife of Jacob Gerhart, of Norristown; Peter, born March 24, 1835, a general business man of Lehigh county, this State, being engaged in farming and the manufacture of powder and the creamery business; Catharine, born August 12, 1837, died in infancy; Reuben, born January 2, 1840, also died in infancy; Jonathan, subject; Mary, born December 30, 1844, died at the age of four years; and Sarah, born February 10, 1847, is the wife of John K. Freed, of Norristown.

Dr. Jonathan Faust received his preliminary scholastic training in Frederick institute, then an English and classical educational institution of high standing, under the supervision at different times of skilled teachers. Afterward he taught school for four years. Having at length resolved upon studying medicine, he registered under the preceptorship of Dr. H. Straessley, a prominent physician of Millville, Clarion county, Pennsylvania, from whose office he entered Jefferson Medical college of Philadelphia, from which time honored institution of learning he graduated in 1867, and at once located at Zeiglersville, where he remained ever since, and through a strict adherence to the duties of his profession, has built up an extensive practice. Dr. Faust is a general practitioner of medicine, but his especial fondness for the study of the eye has led him to specialize in that line. He is a member of the Reformed church, and a Republican in matters political, and on November 28, 1868, he married Amanda Schwenk, a daughter of Aaron Schwenk, of Zeiglersville. Aaron Schwenk in his day was rightfully regarded as one of the most prominent and enterprising men of

Montgomery county. He did more to develop and build up Zeiglersville than any other man. He was prominently identified with the Perkiomen Valley railroad and the Perkiomen and Sumneytown turnpike, and for a number of years in partnership with Samuel Hartranft, father of the late Governor Hartranft, ran a line of stages from Zeiglersville to Norristown. He was not only prominent in the industrial history and development of the county, but influential in political circles as well. He was a staunch Republican, and in 1868 was the nominee of his party for sheriff of Montgomery county, but his party being in the minority, he was defeated. The children born to Dr. Jonathan and Amanda (Schwenk) Faust were as follows: Lizzie, widow of the late Dr. George Dieterich, of Philadelphia; and John Nelson, at home.

Dr. Faust rightfully deserves the success and prominence which he achieved. He makes a close diagnosis of his cases, is well read in medicine, keeping fully abreast its progress, and manifests that humane sympathy with suffering humanity that endears him to all who have occasion to seek his professional ministrations.

A. J. DIMMIG, a prosperous cigar manufacturer of East Greenville, this county, is a son of John and Sophia (Roeder) Dimmig, and was born May 1, 1847, in Milford township, Bucks county, Pennsylvania. Little definite knowledge is known of the early ancestry. John Dimmig, grandfather, lived in Milford township, Bucks county, where he was engaged in the then popular avocation of farming all his life. He was a Democrat and a member of the German Reformed church, a faith to which the entire family have held. John Dimmig married Susanna Weyand, who bore them five children: Charles, Jesse, George, John, and Sallie, wife of Jonathan Gerhard. The grandfather of our subject died in 1855, at the age of eighty-seven years. His wife Susanna survived him until 1865, when she passed away at the remarkable age of ninety-four years.

John (father), was born in Milford township, Bucks county, Pennsylvania, and received the very modest instruction that the rude district schools of his native township provided at that day. He chose to be a carpenter, which he followed all his life in that township and East Greenville. His chief pride was in church affiliations, serving officially as elder and deacon in the New Goshenhoppen Reformed church for many years.

He married Sophia, a daughter of Daniel Roeder, and had seven children, four sons and three daughters: Evalina Gerhard, Daniel, Edwin, dead; Susanna, dead; A. J., our subject; Amanda Steltz, dead; and Allen.

A. J. Dimmig received a good common school education in the public schools of Bucks county and East Greenville, this county. After leaving school, he indentured himself to learn the tinsmith trade, which he pursued for ten years. Subsequently he conducted a general mercantile business at Sellersville for two years, and afterwards three years at East Greenville, where also up to 1885 he engaged in an extensive coal and feed business. At the expiration of this time he established his present prosperous cigar manufacturing industry, employing thirty hands. He is a Democrat, has served in political office in the borough of East Greenville ever since its organization, as school director, member

of its council and in various other capacities. He is at present assessor, and has always interested himself in the success of his party. He served as deacon for four years and trustee for five years in the New Goshenhoppen Reformed church, and as treasurer of the Sunday-school for twenty years. He is a member of the K. of P., Greenville Castle No. 232; East Greenville Camp No. 298, K. G. E.; and Jr. O. U. A. M., at Quakertown.

He married Marietta, a daughter of Joseph and Mary Ann (Artman) Cressman, on September 23, 1874.

HON. HERMAN HAMBURGER, a man of wide and varied business experience and president of the Montgomery Web company of North Wales, is the only son and child of Aaron and Henrietta (Furst) Hamburger, and was born in the city of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, December 21, 1837. Aaron Hamburger was born and reared in Bavaria, Germany, where he resided until he became twenty-five years of age. He then, in 1835, came to Philadelphia and three years later went to Carbon county, Pennsylvania, where he was a pioneer in the coal business with Pardee and Packer. He operated the Beaver Meadow mines for many years, and then was engaged in supplying five of the largest coal companies with dressed beef for several years. Aaron Hamburger was a Whig in politics, served for fifteen years as a justice of the peace and in various ways was active in political affairs. He was born in 1810, and passed away August, 1863. In 1836 he married Henrietta Furst, whose father, Samuel Furst, was a resident of Philadelphia, Their union was blessed with but one child, Hon. Herman, the subject of this sketch.

Herman Hamburger was taken in infancy by his parents to the coal regions of Carbon county, where he grew to manhood. He attended the Beaver Meadow public schools and Vandervere's preparatory school at Easton, Pennsylvania, and then in 1852, entered Lafayette college, from which well known educational institution he was graduated in 1856, with the degree of A. M. After graduation he went to Davenport, Iowa, where he remained one year and taught a private school. He then returned home and after reading law in the office of Furman Sheppard, Esq., of Philadelphia, was admitted in 1861 to the bar of that city. The next year he left practice at the Philadelphia bar to enlist in Company L, 18th Pennsylvania cavalry, of which he was commissioned first lieutenant. He was soon promoted to assistant adjutant general of the first brigade, third division of the cavalry corps of the Army of the Potomac. He took part in six engagements including the two days desperate fighting at Gettysburg, where his brigade commander, General Farnsworth, fell dead by his side. Some time after the battle of Gettysburg, he was taken sick and sent to the hospital at Georgetown and before he was fully convalescent, received the news of his father's death. This necessitated his resignation as he was then needed to take immediate charge of his father's affairs. Returning home to Carbon county, he was elected justice of the peace to succeed his father in that office, and in October, 1866, before the expiration of his term, was elected associate judge of Carbon county for a term of five years, which expired in 1871. In 1868, in connection with A. L. Mumper, George H. Meyers and Thomas John, Judge Ham-

burger became a member of the coal mining and shipping company of A. L. Mumper & Co., of Spring Brook, while their collieries were located at Yorktown, Carbon county. In 1869 they established offices at Philadelphia, of which Judge Hamburger had charge until the dissolution of the company in 1884. In that year he came to North Wales, this county, where he organized the Montgomery Web company and erected their present works. In this special line of elastic web manufacturing he has been very successful. Since coming to North Wales, Judge Hamburger has been prominently identified with its various business interests and is now serving as president of its board of health, and as director of its board of trade and improvement company. He is a Democrat in politics and has been active for many years in the councils of his party.

On June 15, 1870, Judge Hamburger was united in marriage with Madge Elias, of Charlotte, North Carolina. They have five children: Jennie, wife of E. B. Coopman; Aaron, David E., Maylin and Eleanor.

Judge Hamburger was the first president of the Hebrew Charity Ball association of Philadelphia, and served for eleven years as president of the Mercantile club of that city. He is a member of Merchants Council No. 707, Legion of Honor, Oriental Lodge No. 185, Ancient Order of United Workmen, and Tamaqua Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons of Tamaqua.

SAMUEL HAUCK, one of the foremost business men of Harleysville, is an example of the self-made man. He is at present at the head of a thriving manufacturing business, which he has successfully conducted for many years. He was born at Zeiglersville on September 5, 1858, and is a son of Joshua W. Hauck and Sophia Weand. He comes from good old Pennsylvania German and his wife from German ancestry. His paternal grandfather was born in Frederick township, on November 12, 1787. He was a prominent man in his community, and was a leading Democrat in the politics of the county. He was a staunch member of the Reformed church, and was the father of eleven children, as follows: Malinda, wife of George Adleman; Peter, married Sallie Freyer; Charles, married Susanna Zimmerman; Hetty, married Isaac Bowman; George, married Hannah Koch; Betsy, married Aaron Zern; Kate, married Philip Sell; Gusta, died at the age of one year and eight months; Hannah, died in infancy; and Daniel, single, died at the age of twenty-two years.

Mr. Hauck's father was born in Frederick township on July 7, 1827, and died February 20, 1883. He was educated in the public schools and then learned the trade of tailor at the Swamp. When the Civil war broke out in 1861, he enlisted and served three full years with distinction. He was in the heat of the fight in numerous battles, among them being that of Gettysburg. After returning from the war he resumed his business as a tailor, first at Zeiglersville and later at Perkiomenville. He was a Democrat in politics, and a member of the Reformed church. He was also a prominent member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Knights of Pythias. Mr. Hauck, senior, is the father of eleven children, as follows: William, Hannah, George, Samuel, the subject of this sketch; Sally, Joshua, who is dead; Harry, Francis, Anna, Lessa and Emma.

Mr. Samuel Hauck secured a liberal education in the public schools, graduating at the age of seventeen, and learned the tailoring business under his father at Perkiomenville. He remained with his father three years and then started in business for himself at Harleysville in 1886. He commenced business in a small way, but, backed by a strong perseverance and plenty of ambition, he rapidly worked up to the head of a very important business, until at present his trade amouts to over $25,000 a year. He manufactures for the city trade, and employs a large force of hands.

In politics Mr. Hauck follows in the footsteps of his grandfather and father, being a staunch Democrat. He is a member of the Reformed church, and takes great interest in the affairs of the church. He is also a prominent member of Lodge No. 558, F. and A. M., of Lansdale; Perkiomenville Lodge No. 367, I. O. O. F.; and the Junior Order United American Mechanics, No. 18.

Mr. Hauck married Mary, the daughter of Henry and Mary Schuler, and they have had two children: Andora, who died young, and Mamie, who was born on June 11, 1883. Mr. Hauck is very happy in his family life, and is also highly respected in the community as a business man and a citizen.

HON. J. H. LONGENECKER, the subject of this notice, has proved himself to be a brave defender of his country amid the trying scenes of war; and, in civil capacities, a lawyer of recognized merit and superior talents, as well as an able and popular legislator. Such a career is full of interest and worthy of detailed mention.

Hon. J. H. Longenecker was born near Martinsburg, Blair county, Pennsylvania, September 17, 1839. When he was four years of age, his parents, John and Elizabeth (Holsinger) Longenecker, removed to a farm near Woodberry, Bedford county, where he lived until he reached the age of sixteen. He then entered the Allegheny seminary, at Rainsburg, where he pursued an academic course. While acquiring his education, young Longenecker engaged in teaching in the winter for several years, during which time he was principal of the Woodberry school for two sessions, and taught other schools in the neighborhood. His apt scholarship attracted the attention of his instructors, and during the latter part of his course at the seminary he held the position of assistant teacher, thereby defraying a portion of his expenses and those of his sister, who attended the school at the same time. Until the breaking out of the Civil war, Mr. Longenecker led a a pleasant and profitable, though busy life, combining the occupations of student and teacher.

In September, 1861, he enlisted as a private in Co. D, 101st regiment, Pennsylvania volunteers, and on the 20th of the following January he was promoted to sergeant-major of the regiment. May 1, 1863, he was commissioned second lieutenant of Co. D. On the 26th of the following July he was promoted to the rank of adjutant of the 101st regiment. While the army was lying on the Chickahominy, he contracted a fever and was sent to the Bellevue hospital, New York. A month sufficed for his recovery, and he then rejoined the regiment. He served with the regiment until it was captured at Plymouth, North Carolina, on April 20, 1864. Adjutant Longenecker and the other officers of the regiment were then removed to the military prison at Macon, Georgia, and thence, in July, to Savannah.

About a month later they were removed to Charleston, South Carolina, where for nearly a month they were imprisoned in the jail-yard. Next the prisoners were taken to "Camp Sorghum," south of the city of Columbia, South Carolina. During the winter months they were incarcerated in the asylum prison at Columbia. Early in February, 1865, when Sherman was approaching the city, they were removed to Charlotte, North Carolina, and on the evening of their arrival, Adjutant Longenecker made his escape. Two weeks later he was recaptured near the mountains of Western North Carolina, and carried back to Charlotte, and thence to Salisbury, North Carolina. March 2, 1865, he received his liberty in an exchange of prisoners, which took place at Wilmington, North Carolina. On March 14 he was discharged from the service by reason of the great numerical reduction of the command.

In April, 1865, Mr. Longenecker became a law student in the office of Hon. S. S. Blair, of Hollidaysburg, and in September of the same year entered the law department of Albany (New York) University. He graduated from this institution May 25, 1866, receiving the degree of bachelor of laws. On May 5, 1866, he was admitted to practice in the supreme court of the State of New York. The following month he entered the office of Hon. S. L. Russell, of Bedford, to prepare further for entering upon the profession by the study of Pennsylvania statutes and practice. September 3, 1866, he was admitted to practice in the several courts of Bedford county. April 1, 1867, Mr. Longenecker was taken into partnership with Hon. S. L. Russell; thenceforth sharing the large practice of the latter, he quickly arose to prominence in his profession.

At the annual election of October, 1868, he was chosen a member of the Pennsylvania house of representatives. The following year he was re-elected, and served during a second term. Thenceforth he confined his attention almost wholly to the extensive law business of the firm of Russell & Longenecker, until 1882, when, at the earnest request of his party, he accepted the Republican nomination for the office of State senator. The selection of Mr. Longenecker for this important position was a high tribute to his popularity and political standing. Though nominated by the regular or "stalwart" Republicans, and himself supporting the Beaver ticket in the memorable campaign of the year 1882, at the polls he received nearly the unanimous support of the independents, in his own county and Fulton, and was elected, though leading politicians agree that no other Republican in the district could have achieved this result. During the legislative session that succeeded he had positions on several important committees, and throughout this and the stormy extra session following, his conduct was characterized by such prudence and sagacity as won for him well-deserved prominence in the senate and the hearty approbation of the Republican party. During the regular session, Mr. Longenecker was a member of the judiciary general, constitutional reform, and the congressional and legislative apportionment committees, and chairman of the committee on banks. He also served on the conference committee of the two houses, on senatorial and representative apportionment. In the extra session he was made chairman of the committee on senatorial apportionment, and prepared the bill supported by the Republican senators.

Mr. Longenecker has always been a firm supporter of the principles of the Republi-

can party. He cast his first vote for Lincoln, in 1860, and made his first stump speech during the exciting campaign of that year. In 1866 he took an active part in the county canvass, and in every important campaign since that time he has made public speeches in support of the party nominations. In his political and forensic career he has sustained the reputation of an earnest, able and forcible speaker.

Mr. Longenecker was married December 21, 1869, to Miss Rebecca V. Russell, eldest daughter of Hon. S. L. Russell, of Bedford, and is the father of three children: Samuel Russell, Ralph and Charles.

In 1886 he was presented by the Republican party of Bedford county for the congressional nomination in the Twentieth district, but a protracted conference resulted in the nomination of Hon. Edward Scull, of Somerset.

When Governor Beaver came to make up his cabinet in January, 1887, he requested him to accept the position of deputy secretary of the Commonwealth, which he did, and served in that position until December 1, 1890, when he became secretary of the Commonwealth, and acted as such until the expiration of Governor Beaver's term. In November, 1891, he was elected president judge of the Sixteenth Judicial district, composed of the counties of Somerset and Bedford, and since January, 1892, has occupied that position.

WILLIAM J. CLARK, assistant secretary of the Globe Tack works of Norristown, is a son of William and Jane (Cuthbertson) Clark, and was born December 23, 1861, in Norristown, this county. His paternal grandfather, David Clark, was a native of County Doron, Ireland, whence he came to the United States and located in Norristown. He had learned, in his native country, the art of cotton weaving, and hence had little difficulty in securing a position in the line of his trade in this country. He took a position of this kind in Norristown and soon became a foreman. He voted with the Whig party and was a member of the Episcopal church.

He married and became the parent of six children: Mary, Sarah, William J., Fannie, Enos and Letitia, deceased.

William J. Clark learned the trade of a moulder, which trade he followed until he entered the Civil war, when through a wound he received he was unable to follow the trade. He entered the 106th regiment Pennsylvania volunteer infantry as a sergeant, and at the end of his first term re-enlisted and was made a lieutenant in a colored regiment. He was, as his father before him was, a member of the Episcopal church. He married Jane Cuthbertson, and three children blessed this marriage union: William J., Mrs. Spooner, and Harrison B. The father of Mr. Clark died January 2, 1869. At the age of twelve years, our subject entered the tack factory of Captain C. P. Weaver, remaining six years under his employ, and then entered the employ of a similar company in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, where he remained nine years. At the end of that time, he returned to Norristown and embarked in mercantile pursuits on Cherry street for four years, doing a very successful business.

In 1893 he sold his mercantile interests and became one of the organizers of the Globe Tack company. The officers of this company are: Joseph S. Rambo, president; W. N. Easton, secretary; and William J. Clark, assistant secretary. They purchased

the Globe Tack factory, located in Norristown township, near Riverside cemetery, on the Pennsylvania railroad. The factory is a substantial brick building, 135 feet by 45 feet, two stories high; and the plant includes three acres of land upon which they have opened two stone quarries and furnish a good quality of building stone to the trade in Norristown and surrounding towns.

Mr. Clark has always voted the Republican ticket and has held minor local offices in the municipal government of Norristown. He is a member of the following social and fraternal organizations: Iron City council, No. 171; Jr. O. U. A. M.; the Republican Invincible club; and Norristown Choral club.

On May 21, 1885, he wedded Isabella, a daughter of Henry and Martha Brown, and three children, Lovinia Belle, Helen Brown, and Jennie Cuthbertson, are the issue of this union.

REV. AUGUSTINE H. RUFE, pastor *pro tem* of St. Anthony's Catholic church, at Ambler, is a native American citizen and one of the best educated and most thoroughly equipped clergymen of his faith in the arch-diocese of Philadelphia. At present he is not only filling the duties of pastor at Ambler, but is also diligently at work on the project of building a new church in the twenty-second ward of Philadelphia. Few young men have taken such a thorough course in preparation for his noble calling and few have in so short a time reached the prominence in the divine profession. Father Rufe is of German and Irish descent. His father, Jacob Rufe, was born in Reutlingen, Germany, and came to America when a young man. He had a good education in the schools of his native home and when he emigrated he settled in Doylestown, where he became connected with the North Penn railroad in the construction department, which business he followed all his life. An American by adoption Mr. Rufe was thoroughly patriotic. In 1853 he married Ellen McGrath, of Doylestown, and their union was blessed by seven children: John, James, deceased; Catherine, wife of Charles Schulte; Rev. Augustine; Michael; Annie and Ellen, deceased. Mr. Rufe died in 1870, aged forty-five years.

Father Rufe was born at Doylestown on the 11th of November, 1860. Until he reached the age of twelve years he resided at Doylestown and attended the public schools. He then went to Washington, D. C., where he became a pupil in the public schools and afterward entered Gemzaga college, an annex to the Georgetown university. Here he remained three years when he returned to Doylestown. After three years spent at home, he entered St. Charles Borromeo seminary at Overbrook, Philadelphia, as a student for the priesthood. Five years were passed in this noted college and after that he spent one year in St. Mary's university, at Baltimore. At the expiration of that time, September, 1884, Father Rufe embarked for Belgium, where he entered the University of Lourain. Here he studied four years, and on June 29, 1888, was ordained a priest. Almost immediately he sailed for home, and in July was appointed assistant priest at St. Mary's church, Doylestown, and at the same time acted as rector of St. Anthony's church, Ambler, this county. He was appointed pastor of St. Anthony's church in February, 1889, and remained

until October 6, 1892. He then accepted the vice-rectorship of the American college and the chair of ecclesiastical history in the same institution, at Lourain, Belgium, which was certainly a very high honor to be conferred on a young man. Crossing the broad expanse of the Atlantic once more, he entered upon his duties at Lourain and continued in that position until October 1st, 1894, when he returned to America and was stationed as assistant rector of St. James' church, West Philadelphia. Five months later he was given his present appointment and also assigned the very laborious task of erecting a new church in the Twenty-second ward of Philadelphia.

Father Rufe has been an earnest student all his life and he is also a most enterprising and energetic worker in the church. He is a pulpit orator of excellent voice and fluency of language, and is deservedly popular among all the congregations he has served. In politics he is a Republican, thoroughly believing in the principles of that party and yet voting only for those men whom he believes will best serve the people. A learned man and thoroughly imbued with his work, Father Rufe certainly has a very bright future before him and will, no doubt, continue to strengthen his arm as the work of his church demands.

THE HILLEGAS FAMILY. There is a generally accepted tradition in the several branches of the Hillegas family that it is of French extraction. But this is doubtless owing to the fact that the family, prior to removal to the Palatinate of Germany, were residents of the disputed Franco-German province of Alsace. This was originally German territory and embraced many German, as well as French inhabitants. A careful inquiry into the subject based upon the earliest authentic spelling of the name that has as yet been found, *Hilde-gras*, leads to the conclusion that the name is of old Gothic German origin and of great antiquity. The blazonry of the coat of arms as found on an old piece of silver now in the possession of Captain H. H. Bellas, of Germantown, one of the descendants of Michael Hillegas, appears to sustain this theory, notably from the fact that the helmet in the insignia is surmounted by a German earl's coronet.

Hilde-gras means *a grassy battle-field*, that is, presumably, a peaceful battle-field. It will be observed from the blazonry, that a "fesse" or broad band, which rests across the middle of the shield has on it three musical staves. This is a principal mark of the escutcheon and indicates an honor conferred for musical ability. Now it is asked, "May it not have been conferred upon the victor in a musical contest, the victor of a *peaceful battle-field*, far back at the time when he who was crowned gave its present name to the family?"

The religious persecution of the Huguenots and Germans of Alsace and Lorraine drove the Hillegas family with others into the Palatinate of Germany, whence the brothers George Peter, sr., John Frederick and Michael, sr., emigrated to America—George Peter, sr., and Michael sr., prior to 1724. The former located in the Northern Liberties, in the county of Philadelphia, where he died in 1745, leaving the following issue: Peter Hillegas, Margaret, wife of George Passager; Catharine, wife of Philip Tull; Elizabeth and Susanna.

Michael sr., was born in 1696, and located in the city of Philadelphia, where he became

a leading merchant and prominent citizen. He owned a large amount of real estate in the city, considerable in the adjoining vicinity, and several acres in Upper Hanover township. He died intestate October 30, 1749, leaving a widow, Margaret; one son, Michael (born April 22, 1728-9; died September 29, 1804; married Henrietta Bonde), who became celebrated as the first treasurer of the United States from 1775 to 1789; and two daughters, Susanna, wife of Frederick Kuhl; and Mary, wife of John Jennings.

John Frederick Hillegas, the progenitor of the Montgomery county branch of the family, and probably of all who bear the name at this writing, was born in Alsace, November 24, 1685, and with his wife, Elizabeth Barbara, and younger children, sailed for America in the ship *William and Sarah*, from Rotterdam, with the company led by the Rev. George Michael Weiss, a Reformed minister. They arrived at Philadelphia September 18, and took the oath of allegiance September 21, 1727. Soon thereafter, they settled in the region known as "Goshenhoppen," now Montgomery county. Here John Frederick Hillegas, prior to 1734, took up a tract of one hundred and fifty acres of land and by right of purchase, within the years closely following, became the possessor of a large landed estate. Among these early purchases was a tract of one hundred and sixty-five acres, containing thereon a grist-mill, from George Gowen, February 6, 1738, and which is still in the possession of one of his descendants; and a tract of three hundred and sixty-three acres, bought of William Parsons, 1749. He died, leaving a valuble estate to his children, January 6, 1765. His wife, Elizabeth Barbara, died March 4, 1759. Their remains repose in the new Goshenhoppen Reformed burial ground, nearly opposite the front of the present church building. The following is a *fac simile* of the inscriptions on their tombstones, now nearly obliterated and interpreted only after the most diligent efforts:

HIER
LIEGEN BEGRABEN
1759
GESTORBEN DN
4 MER ELISA BA
RBARA HILLIGESEN
UND WORDEN DER
AUFERSTEUNG
IRES ERLOSERS
IESU CHRISTI

HIER LIEGT
BEGRABEN FRIED
RICH HILLEGAS
ALTER WAR—
UND IST GEBOHREN
DEN 24 NOFMR 1685
GESTORBEN DEN
6 JANWARY 1765

They were good church people.

The following is the genealogical record of this branch of the Hillegas family, as nearly complete as obtainable at present, but entirely reliable as far as it goes.

John Frederick Hillegas, b. 1685, Nov. 24; d. 1765, Jan. 6; m. about 1713.

Elizabeth Barbara, b. —— ; d. 1759, March 4.

1. Leopold, b. about 1714; d. ——. Came to America 1730, September 5. Said to have served three years in the war for Independence; took part in the battle of Brandywine; settled in Esophus, Duchess county, New York.

2. John Adam, b. 1717, Jan. 5; d 1779, March 13. Came to this country 1732, Aug. 11; m. Anna Catharine Bitting, b. 1728; d. 1810. They had issue: Michael, John, b. 1743, June 6; d. 1801, March 4; m. 1767, March 5; Anna Maria Hillegas, b. 1746, Oct. 25; d. 1795, March 28; George; Adam; Frederick; Peter, bapt. 1759, Nov. 28; one of the seven months men, Col. Daniel Heister, jr., battalion of Phila. county militia. He was killed by a falling tree in the presence of two of his sons; Jacob, b. April 26, 1772; Eva, b. 1745, July 16; d. 1821, Nov. 23; m. George Harlacker, b. 1738, Dec. 6; d. 1813, Nov. 22; Catharine, m. John Greisemer, a member of the Committee of Safety of Northampton county; Ann Margaret, bapt. 1758, May 15; m. Carl Schellenberger; Elizabeth; Ann Mary, b. 1775, Aug. 18; Anna

Christina, bapt. 1760, but who died before the execution of her father's will, as she is not mentioned in this document; and a daughter who died 1777, May 6; aged nine days.

3. Frederick, b. about 1720, and thought to have accompanied his brother Leopold to Esophus, Duchess county, New York.
4. Eva Elizabeth, b. about 1723; m. —— Yeager (?).
5. Ann Margaret, b. 1726, Aug. 15: d. 1773, Jan. 6; m. about 1748, Matthias Richards, b. 1719, Jan. 9; d. 1775, March 28. He was one of the executors of his father-in-law's will.
6. Ann Regina, b. about 1729.
7. Elizabeth Barbara, b. 1732, April 16; d. 1817, Aug. 15; m. John Frey, b. 1731, Oct. 10; d. 1820, Dec. 10.
8. George Peter, b. 1735, Feb. 2; d. 1810, Sept. 24; m. about 1750, Anna Barbara Hornecker, b. 1737; d. 1812, March 14. They had issue: Eve, m. Abraham Levy; John Peter, b. 1756; m. 1779, March 16, Ann Maria Maurer (d. of Andrew); Jacob, Frederick, bapt. 1759, April 26; Catharine, bapt. 1760, Jan. 29; m. John Maurer; Elizabeth Barbara, b. 1763, Oct. 17; d. 1842; m. John Schell (of John[2], of Michael[1]), who emigrated to Bedford county, Pa., in 1800, and located and laid out Schellsburg, donating land for church and school purposes; Maria, m. George Hillegas; Magdalina, m. George Ewault. George Peter was one of the executors of his father's will. He left a valuable estate to his children.
9. Conrad, b. 1738, Nov. 2; d. 1824, December 24; m. Margaretta Schellenberger, b. 1742, July 2; d. 1820, Nov. 5. They had issue: Frederick, Elizabeth, d. before 1822; m. Adam Schneider; Eve, m. Peter Yost; Barbara, m. Daniel Yost, Esq.; Margaret, b. 1769, Aug. 3; d. 1837, Feb. 25; m. 1790, Aug. 10, Michael Dotterer, b. 1766, Jan. 30; d. 1824, Nov. 28; Susanna, m. Adam Yost; Anna Mary, m. Jacob Ache. Conrad left the farm and improvements bequeathed him by his father, to his son Frederick, upon the condition that he pay £1000, Pa. money, to be divided equally among the other six children.

THOMAS H. SEAL, a general merchant and the present postmaster of Jarrettown, is a son of William and Jane (Hall) Seal, and was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, December 9, 1857. William Seal was the fourth of nine children born to James and Susan (Gawthorp) Seal, who were members of the Society of Friends, and resided on their farm in Chester county. William Seal was of English descent, and after receiving a good English education, was employed in teaching until he was twenty-two years of age. He then removed to Philadelphia; and after spending thirteen years there as a general merchant, he went to West Chester, in Chester county, where he was engaged in the machinery business for two years. At the end of that time, in 1870, he returned to Philadelphia, where he has been engaged in the flour and feed business ever since. He is a Republican and Friend, and in 1857, wedded Jane Hall, who is a daughter of Mahlon Hall, of Bucks county. Mr. and Mrs. Seal have two children, a son and a daughter: Thomas H. and Sarah, wife of Henry F. Carpenter.

Thomas H. Seal was reared in his native city, received his education in the public schools, and commenced life for himself by obtaining a position with the Biddle Hardware company, with whom he remained for three years. He then assisted his father for several years, and, in 1887, came to Jarrettown, as a favorable place for the general mercantile business. He immediately opened a general mercantile establishment, which he has conducted successfully ever since. Mr. Seal studies closely the wants of his numerous patrons and endeavors to accommodate them. He carries full lines of dry goods, hardware, groceries, provisions, notions, and everything to be usually found in any first-class mercantile establishment outside of a city.

On March 15, 1887, Mr. Seal married Fannie Wilson, a daughter of Joseph F. Wilson, of Philadelphia. In politics Thomas H. Seal is a Republican, and served as a

member of the school board of Upper Dublin township for a term of one year. Although a Republican, he was appointed postmaster at Jarrettown by President Cleveland in 1887, and re-appointed by President Harrison, and again by President Cleveland. Mr. Seal is a member of Abington Meeting Society of Friends; Clover Castle No. 386, Knights of the Golden Eagle, of Pennsylvania; and Delphi No. 5, Order of Sparta, of Philadelphia.

LOUIS KITTSON, the owner and manager of the celebrated Erdenheim stock farm, is a son of Hon. Norman W. and Elsie (Marion) Kittson, and was born in the city of St. Paul, Minnesota, April 2, 1855. Hon. Norman W. Kittson was born May 14, 1814, at Sorel, Province of Quebec, Dominion of Canada. At an early age he became interested in the American Fur company, whose founder and active head was John Jacob Astor, whose operations were on a scale altogether beyond anything ever before attempted by individual enterprise, and abounded in such wild romance as to enlist the pen of Irving in a pleasing narrative, constituting two volumes. The company operated in the northwestern part of the United States, with headquarters at Chicago, and Mr. Kittson was actively engaged in the management until 1863, when he withdrew and became connected with the Hudson Bay Fur company, the oldest fur company in the world, and whose charter dates back to 1670. He continued with the last named company for twenty years, and acted as their general agent at St. Paul, Minnesota, from 1864 to 1874. In the last named year he became one of the founders of the Manitoba, now Great Northern railway, and shortly afterwards was one of a syndicate of five members who purchased the entire railway and operated it until 1878, when they sold nearly all of its bonds. Shortly after this he engaged in raising fast trotting horses, and in 1882 he purchased the Welsh property in Whitemarsh township, known as Erdenheim. Here he embarked in the raising and training of thorough-bred running horses, and was very successful until his death. Erdenheim is the home of "Iroquois," the only American horse that ever won the English Derby, and "Flora Temple" and "Leamington," who were famous in their day, and lie buried in one part of the lawn. Other horses of national reputation have been raised there, and still keep up the name of the great stock. Norman W. Kittson was active and influential in enterprises of vast scope and affecting the material progress and wealth of both the United States and Canada. He served one term as a member of the legislature of Minnesota, and passed away at the end of a long and useful life, on May 10, 1888, aged seventy-four years. Mr. Kittson married Elsie Marion, who was a native of Winnipeg, Canada. Mr. and Mrs. Kittson reared a family of eight children, six sons and two daughters.

Louis Kittson, at four years of age, was taken from St. Paul, Minnesota, to Winnipeg, where he received his education in the French Jesuit college of St. Boniface. At seventeen years of age he entered the service of the Hudson Bay Fur company as a clerk, and remained with them for eleven years, and during that period he received several promotions. He traveled among the Indians of the northwestern States and territories, received his mail but twice a year, and one winter walked eleven hundred miles on snow shoes. He was exposed to

Louis Kitzen

much danger and hardship, never saw a white man for six years, and in 1883 left the service of the company to assist his father in the management of the Erdenheim stock farm, referred to previously in this sketch. After the death of his father, in 1888, he and his brother James E., operated the farm until 1893, when he purchased his brother's interest, and since then has continued in the raising of thorough-bred horses for trotting and running. The Erdenheim stock farm cannot be surpassed for situation or excelled for splendid and beautiful horses in the United States, while it is known from the Atlantic to the Pacific ocean, and horses from its stables have successfully competed with the swiftest steeds of Europe and Arabia. Louis Kittson is doing much to improve the fine blooded horses of the United States, and his efforts, while now receiving recognition, yet will be most fully appreciated in the future, when their benefits will be more fully perceived. He is a Democrat in political opinion, but no extremist or politician, for his life-work lies in the business world, and there all his energies and efforts are directed.

In 1889 Mr. Kittson wedded Caroline D. Gordon, a daughter of Robert Gordon, of Springfield. To their union have been born two children: Louis G., who died in infancy; and Frederick Stevens, now in the fifth year of his age, being born March 3, 1890.

NATHAN RAMBO, who for many years was a prominent limestone operator at Swedesburg, this county, is a son of Nathan and Ann (Brodes) Rambo, and was born in the year 1847, in Upper Merion, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania. The Rambos are of Swedish extraction, but have been settled in Pennsylvania since colonial times. Jonas Rambo, paternal grandfather of the subject of this sketch, was a life-long resident of Upper Merion township, where he owned large tracts of land. He was a farmer and stockman by occupation, an old line Whig in politics, and by his marriage the father of a family of several children. His remains rest in the cemetery connected with the old Swedes' Episcopalian church at Swedesburg, of which he was a member. One of his sons was Nathan Rambo (father), who was born and reared at Swedesburg, where after attaining manhood he engaged in the limestone business and accumulated considerable wealth. He owned extensive limestone quarries, which he operated for many years, besides engaging in various other lines of industry, chief of which was the hotel business. For a number of years he was proprietor of a hostlery known as the Rambo house, and became quite prominent in the community. In religion he was an Episcopalian, and served for many years as vestryman of his church at Swedesburg. Politically he was a Whig until 1856, when he became a Republican. He was also a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He married Ann Brodes, and they had a family of seven children: Eliza, deceased; Mary Jane, also dead; Rebecca, widow of J. P. H. Jones; Emma P., wife of T. P. Merritt; William B., engaged in the lime business at Swedesburg; Nathan, the subject of this sketch; and Thomas J., a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this volume. The father died in 1858, aged forty-seven years, and the mother passed away in 1889, aged eighty-two.

Nathan Rambo was reared in his native village of Swedesburg, and obtained his elementary education in the public schools.

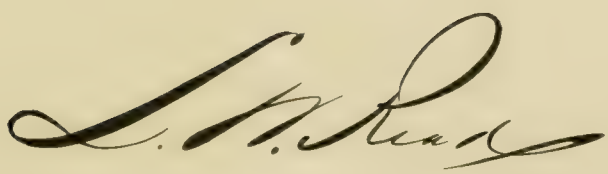
He afterwards took a course of training in a military academy at West Chester, Pennsylvania, and then embarked in the limestone business. He owned and operated large quarries in Swedesburg, and successfully conducted the enterprise until 1890, when he sold out to Robert McCoy and retired from business. Since that time he has been living quietly in his beautiful home at Bridgeport, surrounded by all the well-earned comforts and luxuries which go to make up an enjoyable life.

In both religion and politics Mr. Rambo adheres to the traditions of his family and is an ardent Republican and an active member of the Swedes' Episcopal church at Swedesburg. In 1873 he married Clara V. Walker. To Mr. and Mrs. Rambo were born two children: Harry and Merritt, who died in infancy.

LOUIS W. READ, M. D., surgeon general of Pennsylvania, and president of the association of military surgeons of the United States, has rendered conspicuous and valuable service in two of the world's great wars, and stands at the head of his profession in this country. He is the eldest son of Thomas and Sarah (Corson) Read, and was born at Plymouth, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, July 5, 1828. His parents were natives of Delaware county, as were his grandparents, William and Susan Read, and his mother was a daughter of Joseph Corson, and a sister to Drs. Hiram and William Corson. His brothers and sisters, five in number, are: Joseph C., Dr. Alan W., Sarah, widow of Charles Jones; Hannah, and Mary, widow of John Roberts.

Louis W. Read spent his boyhood days at Road's mill, in Upper Merion township, and received his education in the early common schools and Treemount academy, when it was under the charge of the celebrated Rev. Samuel Aaron. Leaving school, he read medicine with his maternal uncle, Dr. William Corson, and then entered the medical department of the University of Pennsylvania, from which he was graduated in the class of 1849. After graduation he devoted himself assiduously to obtaining the widest knowledge possible of his important profession, and while thus commendably engaged, came the Crimean war cloud in southern continental Europe, which opened before him an extended and highly valuable field for scientific observation and practical work. He offered his services to the Russian government, and being accepted, he served as a surgeon throughout the Crimean war, and was at Sebastapol during its long and terrible siege by the allied forces. During this service under the Czar, he effected important improvements in the manner of treating gun-shot wounds, which were afterwards generally adopted, both in Europe and the United States. Leaving Russia at the close of the war, he spent six months in the hospitals of Paris, where he had a new and valuable field for the study of serious wounds and complicated diseases. Returning home in the autumn of 1857, he came to Norristown, where he has been successfully engaged ever since in the practice of medicine and surgery. While ranking with the foremost of his profession as a general practitioner, yet as a surgeon he has won highest position and widest fame.

When the late Civil war commenced, Dr. Read was enjoying a fine practice, but patriotism with him was superior to home comforts and personal gain, and he tendered his services to the government in the



Ashley P. Hunter

hour of peril. In May, 1861, he was appointed surgeon of the First Pennsylvania reserves, and in June was promoted to surgeon of United States volunteers, with the rank of major, and assigned to the Thirteenth Pennsylvania infantry. He resigned this position in 1863, to accept the medical directorship of the Pennsylvania reserve corps, and in November, 1864, was placed in charge of McKim United States hospital at Baltimore, and remained there until March, 1866, when the hospital was closed and he was mustered out of the Federal service with the rank of brevet lieutenant colonel of the United States volunteers, which had been bestowed on January 12, 1866, for meritorious service. Returning home, he resumed his practice, and for nearly twenty years has been constantly in attendance upon the sick and caring for those needing surgical aid.

On June 3, 1858, Dr. Read was united in marriage with Georgine Hurst, a daughter of Alfred Hurst, who died August 5, 1885, leaving two children: NinaB. and Alfred H.

Dr. Read is a Republican in politics, and while interested in public affairs, yet has made the duties of his profession paramount to all other claims upon his time and attention. His successful removal in December, 1863, of the ball which General Hancock received at Gettysburg, July 3, 1863, when all other physicians failed, stamped his skill as a surgeon, and was the means of preserving a life of inestimable value to the Army of the Potomac and the American Union. He was an intimate friend of General Hancock, and his recent offer to repair, at his own expense, the tomb of that great military chieftain, has been matter of favorable comment in all parts of the country. He was appointed surgeon-general of Pennsylvania by Governor Hartranft, with the rank of brigadier-general, May 15, 1874, and re-appointed by Governors Hoyt, Pattison and Beaver, and again by Governor Pattison in 1891, holding the position at this time, under appointment of Governor Hastings. Dr. Read is a prominent member of the Loyal Legion, the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, the Union League, and the Association of the Sons of the Revolution. He was a member of the commission to select a site for the Norristown hospital for the insane, and took an active part in the choice of plans, the construction of the building and other duties.

In May, 1895, Dr. Read was elected president of the Military Surgeons, and the *Herald* says of the election: "Surgeon General Louis W. Read has just been highly honored in his election to the position of president of the association of Military Surgeons, in session the past three days at Buffalo. The present session is the fifth annual meeting of the organization, which includes surgeons of the United States army, the navy, the marine corps, and the National Guard of various States. The honor was entirely unexpected and unsolicited, and is all the more acceptable, since it was conferred in the absence of the recipient."

Dr. Read is a man of kindness and sympathy, of proverbial humanity as a physician, and of the highest standing in every walk of life. He is universally esteemed and has sought and successfully obtained the highest qualifications in his profession.

ASHLEY PECHIN HUNTER, a prominent manufacturer of Norristown, is a son of Perry M. and Rebecca A. (Pechin) Hunter, and was born February 12, 1851,

at-Bird-in-Hand, now known as Gulf Mills, in Upper Merion township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania. Mr. Hunter received his educational training in the public schools of Bridgeport, this county, where his father resided from 1855 to 1865. Upon the latter date, his father removed to Norristown, and Ashley P. profited by attending the common schools of that place and Treemount seminary, an institution of high educational standard under the direction of Prof. John W. Loch. In the latter institution he prepared for entrance to college, but instead of pursuing a college course, took a clerkship in the mill of his father, situated on Barbadoes street, in Norristown, and remained there in various capacities until the death of his father. In the latter part of 1889 he organized the Norristown Woolen company, which was incorporated January 3, 1890, with the following officers: George F. Coleman, president, and Ashley P. Hunter, secretary, treasurer and manager. In addition to the above, he is a director in the Norristown Title, Trust and Safe Deposit company, the Norristown Land and Improvement company, a charter member and a director in the R. S. Newbold & Sons Manufacturing company, a company largely engaged in the manufacture of boilers, and was at one time a director of the Norristown Gas company.

Politically Mr. Hunter must be classed as an independent Republican, but has never had the time nor the inclination to enter the arena of politics. He is an attendant of St. John's Episcopal church.

On October 20, 1886, Mr. Hunter and Mary Frances Peirce, a daughter of Dr. Thomas A. Peirce, of Winona, Minnesota, were united in marriage and three children, Morgan Pechin, Thomas Peirce and Perry Ashbridge, bless their marriage union.

Ashley Pechin Hunter not only possesses those qualities of head that are so necessary to a successful business career but combines with these mental qualifications, qualities of the heart that make him universally loved and respected. He is one of those employing labor, who believes in giving his employes the greatest benefits possible, consistent with a wholesome prosperity of the employer. By those under his employ he is respected, because of his genial disposition, his sympathetic nature and his extreme humanity; and he eminently deserves the high esteem in which he is held by all who have business or social relations with him.

John Hunter, the elder, came to America in the year 1722. All the various accounts regarding his ancestors agree that he was of a good family from the north of England, whose ancestral seat is still in existence and is called "Medomsley Hall," at Medomsley, Gateshead, Durham, England, and was a few years ago occupied by a descendant of the family name. At the old Episcopal church at Durham, where they are buried, are the graves of General Anthony Hunter, Sir John and Sir Thomas Hunter, and many other family names of prominence, the records extending back to the year 1605. Among the most interesting records of the earliest Durham knights recorded at Medomsley, extending back to 1183, was one concerning William the Hunter, who married a lady of respectable family of Darruinnas, of Whittenstall. There can be little doubt that this local Nimrod originated the numerous Hunter families of Medomsley, whose ancestors appear in the earliest court rolls of the Manor, and whose relationship to each other is now difficult or impossible to define.

John Hunter was a strong churchman,

and made himself very obnoxious to the Catholics. On the accession to the throne of England of James II, a son of Charles I, fearing retaliation from the Catholics, he removed to Ireland, and settled at Rathdrum, Wicklow county. A short time thereafter, when William and Mary were called to the throne of England, and William followed the fugitive forces of James into Ireland, John Hunter entered the Protestant army as a trooper, accompanied by his friend, Anthony Wayne, and with him, participated as a captain of a Troop of Horse, in the battle of Boyne, July 1, 1690, old style, at the defeat of James' army. In this battle he was wounded in the left hip by a musket ball, which caused a little lameness during the remainder of his life. He became an extensive grazer in Ireland, and in 1693 married Margaret Albin. His wedding ring with the following inscription, "Keep this in remembrance of me, 1693," and the holster and pistols which he used at the battle of Boyne, are still in the possession of his descendants.

William Hill, who married Mary, the eldest daughter of John Hunter, in Ireland, came with his wife to Pennsylvania, and settled in Middleton township, Chester county (now Delaware county), Pa. John Hunter, with his family, followed his son-in-law to America in the year 1722. He bought a large part of the Daniel Williamson one thousand acre tract in Newtown township, Chester county (now Delaware county), Pa., about twelve miles west of Philadelphia, taking title March 16, 1723, whereon he settled and passed the remainder of his life. John Hunter died in 1734, aged seventy years, and is interred in the church-yard connected with St. David's Episcopal church, Radnor, Delaware county, Pa., of which he was a member. He was chosen a member of the first vestry of St. David's church, elected April 1, 1725. His oldest son John was elected a vestryman October 6, 1747, and James Hunter, youngest son of John, the elder, was elected a vestryman of the same church in 1773. John Hunter brought with him to America several families of "Redemptionists." The "Redemptionists" were bound to him until they had earned their freedom by certain years of personal labor in his service. The children of John and Margaret Hunter were: John, William, Mary, Margaret, George, Peter, Martha, Ann, Elizabeth and James. John, the eldest son of John Hunter, settled near Steamboat, in Chester Valley, Chester county, Pa. William, the second son of John Hunter, settled in Newtown, Delaware county, Pa., on part of the tract of land bought of the Williamson estate. This tract of land was divided between him and his brother James. William married Hannah, daughter of Edward Woodward, in 1775. William had two sons, William and Edward. William, the eldest son, settled in Eastown township, Chester county, Pa. Edward, the second son of William, the elder, resided in Newtown, Delaware county, Pa., on the tract of land that belonged to his father. He was well known as 'Squire Hunter. He was appointed by the governor of the State, and held the office of justice of the peace for about forty years. 'Squire Edward Hunter married Hannah, daughter of Jesse and Rebecca Maris, of Springfield township. The children of 'Squire Edward and Hannah Hunter were: William, Rebecca, Alice, Hannah, Margaret, Elizabeth and Edward. Rebecca, the daughter of 'Squire Hunter, married Peter Pechin, of Philadelphia, Pa., February 26, 1795. James, the youngest son of John, the elder, resided in Newtown,

Chester county, in the old family mansion on part of the Williamson estate, originally purchased and divided. During the war between England and France, in which the colonies joined, James Hunter participated as captain of the Associators of Chester county, 1747-1748, (Pennsylvania Archives, Vol. 2, page 506). In colonial records, Vol. 9, page 205, it is recorded that James Hunter was a justice of the peace and of the sessions. He married Hannah Morgan, daughter of John Morgan, of Radnor, Chester county (now Delaware county), Pa. James Hunter died in March, 1783, and his wife, Hannah Hunter, in November, 1803, and both are interred in the graveyard of St David's Episcopal church, Radnor, Delaware county, Pa. The children of James and Hannah Hunter were: James, John, Peter, George, Sarah, Mary and Ann.

James, the elder, by his will, divided his three hundred and fifty acre tract of land between his sons, John and George, giving two hundred and fifty acres to John, and one hundred acres with the homestead to his youngest son George. James, the eldest son, lived in Radnor, Delaware county, on the estate inherited from the Morgans. His mother, in her will, gave him the property. Peter, the third son, died in early manhood. The youngest daughter, Ann, also died early in life. Both being interred in the churh-yard of St. David's Episcopal church. Sarah, the eldest daughter, married Evan Lewis, of Newtown township; Mary, the second daughter, married Hugh Jones George, the youngest son of James Hunter, the elder, was in Wilmington, Delaware, learning the miller's trade when his father died. At his mother's request he discontinued this, and took charge of the homestead property willed to him by his father. In the summer of 1797 he married Elizabeth Pearson, daughter of Joseph Pearson, of Ridley, Delaware county.

James Hunter, the father of George, was the owner of slaves, and George was raised by a slave, and had slaves to wait upon him from his infancy to manhood. Both George Hunter, and Joseph Pearson, the father of Elizabeth Pearson, owned slaves until they were made free by the legislature of the State in 1828. George Hunter's body-servant remained with him until his death. George Hunter followed the occupation of a farmer on the homestead property during the remainder of his life, dying October 19, 1834, aged seventy-one years. His wife, Elizabeth Hunter, did not long survive her husband but died in the following year, July 26, 1835, aged sixty-nine years. They are both buried at Newtown Friends' Meeting. The children of George and Elizabeth Hunter were George Morgan, Martha Emily, Albert Gallatin, Joseph Pearson, Charles Franklin, Stephen Decatur, Jonas Preston and Perry Macdonough.

Perry M. Hunter was born on October 10, 1814, and when young went as an apprentice to Azariah Williamson, who conducted a general mercantile business at Goshen, in Chester county. In 1837 he removed to Gulf Mills, in Upper Merion township, this county, and with his brother Stephen, founded a general mercantile business at that place; the post-office was likewise located in the store building, and he also engaged in the manufacture of woolen goods. This business alliance continued two years when it was concluded by Mr. Hunter's purchasing his brother's interest. On April 1, 1843, Perry M. Hunter purchased from Alexander Brook the Bird-in-Hand hotel property, converting the latter into a residence which he occupied from the time of his marriage until the autumn

of 1855. He first engaged in the manufacture of woolen goods at Gulf Mills, forming a partnership for that purpose with Samuel DeHaven, under the firm name of Hunter & DeHaven. They leased a mill property on Gulf Creek, just below Bird-in Hand store. This property being destroyed by fire in the winter of 1858-1859, they purchased of David McConkey, of West Chester, on March 31, 1859, the woolen mill property in Norristown, now known as "Watts Mill," where they continued the manufacture of woolen goods until November 5, 1864, when they sold the plant to John B. Bishop. They then, on March 4, 1865, purchased of George Guest, a mill property on Main street below Arch street, Norristown, erected new buildings and changed those already thereon to a woolen mill and resumed the manufacture of woolen goods together until February, 1866, when Mr. DeHaven disposed of his interest to Robert Kershaw, and the business was continued under the caption of P. M. Hunter & Company. On March 11, 1868, Mr. Hunter purchased a mill property situated on the corner of Barbadoes and Airy streets, in Norristown, and operated it as a woolen mill in connection with his other woolen industry until his death, November 12, 1868, in Norristown. He took a prominent part in the political and financial affairs of the county. He was a staunch Democrat and was always interested in the success of his party and the welfare of the people at large. He was elected treasurer of Montgomery county in the autumn of 1853 and again in the autumn of 1854, serving with efficiency in this responsible position. He was one of the organizers and for several years was a director of the Bank of Pottstown, as well as a director of the Bank of Montgomery county (now Montgomery National bank of Norristown). Religiously he was a strict Episcopalian, being an attendant of St. John's Episcopal church of Norristown from his marriage until his death, latterly holding the position of vestryman and treasurer of the church organization. At the time of his death he was president of the borough council of Norristown and president of the Manufacturers Mutual Fire Insurance company of Philadelphia.

Rebecca A. Hunter, wife of Perry M. Hunter, was a woman of uncommon force of character. Kind in heart, benevolent in disposition, she was exceptionally faithful and conscientious in the performance of all the duties of her life. Early in life she became a member of St. John's Episcopal church at Norristown, and ever took an active interest in religious affairs. Especially did she interest herself in the benevolent and charitable work of the church, giving freely of her time, her substance and her strength, wherever and whenever she thought her ministrations might lighten the burden and cheer the hearts of the worthy poor. For several years prior to her death, she was on the committee of distributing members of the Bringhurst fund for the relief of the deserving poor of Norristown, having been appointed by the trustees of that fund. She died in Norristown, December 22, 1891, at the age of sixty-five years, and a short time afterwards, her three sons, in honor of her merits and worth as a woman, a Christian and a mother, placed in St. John's Episcopal church, a beautiful stained glass memorial window. The children born to the marriage of Perry M. and Rebecca A. (Pechin) Hunter were: Silanus Pearson, Ashley Pechin and Perry Franklin.

Perry M. Hunter and his wife, Rebecca

A. Hunter, are both interred in the family lot in Montgomery cemetery, Norristown, Pennsylvania.

The Pechin family is of French origin, and the first one of the family to come to America of whose history we have any definite knowledge, was Christopher Pechin. He was born in 1737, and in 1750 was brought to this county by his parents, his mother dying on the voyage. He was one of a family of five children, two girls and three boys. Christopher Pechin became a prominent shipping merchant and business man of Philadelphia. He was a member of the firm of Pechin & Bright, who owned a line of vessels and were largely engaged in importing wines from France. In addition to this the firm carried on a marine insurance and commission business. After his marriage he lived in a large mansion on Front street, in Philadelphia. He was a man of means, and his home was tastefully and elegantly furnished, but during the Revolutionary war it was invaded by the English soldiers who destroyed much of its costly furnishings. During the Revolutionary war he assisted the cause of the colonies by granting congress a large loan. This was repaid in Continental money which became worthless and he thus lost the entire loan. He died in Philadelphia, on October 26, 1779, at the age of forty-two years, and his remains peacefully rest in the church yard of St. Paul's Episcopal church in Philadelphia, and upon the tombstone which marks his last resting place is the following inscription:

"Death has conquered life
But Christ has conquered death
And I shall live again."

His marriage was with Christiana Bright, of Reading, Pennsylvania, a sister of his business partner. The children born to this union were: John, William, George, Mary and Peter, all born in Philadelphia and all received a liberal education.

Peter Pechin, the youngest, learned the trade of a tanner at Newton township, chester county, Pennsylvania, and remained there for a time pursuing his trade. On February 26, 1795, he married Rebecca Hunter, a great-granddaughter of John Hunter, the elder, and shortly afterward removed to a farm which he had purchased in 1794 in Lower Merion township, this county. Upon this farm was located a tannery, and he remained there engaged as a tanner, currier and farmer until 1825, when he retired from active business and removed to Radnor, Delaware county, this State. He was a man of good business qualifications possessing the native mental vivacity of the French and accumulated a very handsome competency. In his infancy he had been baptized in the Episcopal church, but upon removing to Lower Merion township he affiliated with the Baptist church, as there was no Episcopal church in the neighborhood, and was active in the erection of the Lower Merion Baptist church edifice in 1810. He was president of the board of trustees for twenty-three years, until 1848, when he resigned. He died at Radnor on July 19, 1858, his wife having died November 25, 1852. The children born to Peter and Rebecca Hunter Pechin were as follows: George, Edward Hunter, Christopher, Emily, John and Rebecca.

George Pechin, the eldest of the family, was born in Lower Merion township in 1796 and died in Bridgeport, this county, October 16, 1852. He learned the trade of a currier and tanner with his father and assisted him in his tannery and upon the farm until after his marriage, February 7,

1822, when he took up farming pursuits exclusively. As a farmer he was eminently successful and became the owner of a number of valuable farms in Lower Merion township.

In the spring of 1851 he retired from an active, successful and honorable business career and purchased from Louis Lukens the double front brick residence on the corner of Fourth and DeKalb streets, Bridgeport, this county, where he spent the remainder of his days. He was a man of spirit and enterprise, combining in a marked degree many admirable qualities of head and heart. For several years prior to his death he was a director of the bank of Montgomery county, (now the Montgomery National bank of Norristown).

Upon the resignation of his father, in 1848, as trustee of the Lower Merion Baptist church, he was chosen to take his place and served in that relation until his death. He married Mary Broades, a daughter of William and Ann Broades, of Lower Merion township, and the following children came to this union: Margaret Broades, Rebecca Ann, George and Mary Emily. Rebecca Ann Pechin became the wife of Perry M. Hunter, of Gulf Mills, this county, on March 23, 1848.

REV. DAVID W. MOORE, the present pastor of the Second Presbyterian church of Norristown, was born October 5, 1830, in Chester county, Pennsylvania, near the old Brandywine Manor Presbyterian church. His ancestors were the Moores of an English descent and who came to the province of Pennsylvania in colonial times. His grandfather, William Moore, was born in Coleraine, Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, in 1757, and died in 1842. He served as a soldier in the Revolutionary war. He married into the Elliott family (Andrew and Margaret's daughter, Rachel) and they had ten children, of whom William Moore, jr., was the youngest. He married Lydia Michenor, and they had eight children, David W. Moore being their second born child. The Michenor family connection was that which first settled at Plumstead, Bucks county, Pennsylvania, about 1700.

The early life of Rev. David W. Moore was spent on his father's farm in Brandywine township, Chester county, Pennsylvania. He received the ordinary common school education and some academical training in a Quaker school at Strodes' Mills and at Howard Academy, Rockville, Chester county, Pennsylvania. He was prepared for college by Professor James McClure, A.M., and entered Princeton, N. J., in 1855 and graduated in 1858; entered the Theological Seminary of Princeton in 1858 and graduated in 1861. His first pastorate was that of Lower Brandywine Presbyterian Church, New Castle county, Delaware, where he was ordained and installed May 5, 1861. Here he continued to serve this church till October, 1872, with the exception of an interval during the Civil war, when he filled the position of chaplain of the 97th regiment, Pennsylvania volunteers. After leaving Delaware he served the church south in the bounds of the presbytery of New Orleans, doing missionary work in southern Mississippi at McComb City. In 1873 he was called and settled in McVeytown, Mifflin county, Pa., where he continued as pastor till October, 1883. Was then called and settled at Kennett Square, Chester county, Pa., till October, 1887, and after doing missionary work and supplying a church in Philadel-

phia for two years, was called and settled over the Second church of Norristown in 1889, where he continues as pastor.

The Rev. David W. Moore was first married to Miss Elizabeth Hoagland, of Pennington, N. J., December 26, 1860. Of this marriage he had one son, William Ellsworth Moore, now of Philadelphia. He was married the second time to Miss Bertha Longaker, November 13, 1879, of Norristown, Pa.

THE SECOND CHURCH (Presbyterian), of Norristown, was organized September 27, 1850, by the Second Presbytery of Philadelphia. The original members of this church enterprise were old school Presbyterians, Ceceders and Covenanters.

The earliest appearance of a union among these diversified elements was in 1848, when they began to worship with the Trinity Reformed congregation on Airy street, Norristown, then under the pastoral care of Rev. John Kooken. But the Nevin theological controvery caused a separation from the Reformed congregation. After this the Second church progenitors worshipped in each other's houses till the advent of a Rev. Samuel Paul, of the Associate Presbytery of New York city, who had been sent into Eastern Pennsylvania as a missionary, in the interest of what was known as the Psalm Singing church. Under Mr. Paul's leadership, the new congregation was invited to worship with the Reformed people, they being at this time without a pastor. This arrangement was very satisfactory while it continued, but it being impossible to organize a church of Psalm Singers, which was Mr. Paul's mission, the project was given up, and after considerable opposition, an old school church was organized by the Second Presbytery of Philadelphia, September 27, 1850. And Mr. Paul, having been received as a member of the presbytery, was installed October 31st, 1850, as the first pastor of the Second Presbyterian church of Norristown; and the first ruling elders were: John Patterson and Henry King, ordained and installed at the same time. Rev. Samuel Paul only remained pastor two years, after which he gave up the ministry. Rev. Joseph Nesbitt then became pastor and continued to February, 1860. During this time the congregation worshiped in the old primitive Methodist church edifice, northeast corner of Airy and Green streets, which had been purchased for a place of worship, and which was occupied till 1871, when the property was sold and the congregation moved to Mogeetown and worshipped in a building furnished by William Mogee.

Rev. Samuel Horriston succeeded Mr. Nesbitt in the pastorate, but only remained with the congregation till the breaking out of the Civil war in 1861. Thus, for an interval of ten years, the church had no regular pastor, but was supplied, the Rev. Samuel Martin closing up this regime. Then Rev. Bellville Roberts became pastor May 3, 1872, and continued till 1879. In the meantime the congregation had moved to Bridgeport, where a fine church edifice was erected in 1874 at a cost of about $20,000, under the supervision of Mr. Roberts. Rev. Henry F. Mason succeeded Rev. B. Roberts as pastor and was installed October 14, 1880, and continued to serve the church till 1883. The congregation then had supplies till 1887, when Rev. S. R. Queen was called and installed January 7, 1887, and remained with the congregation about two years. Rev. David W.

Moore succeeded Mr. Queen and was installed May, 1889. During this last pastorate the church was cleared of a very troublesome debt.

The Second church of Norristown has had great difficulties to overcome and peculiar trials to endure: First, its too close proximity to the old Brown church, corner of Airy and DeKalb streets; second, its loss of Rev. Joseph Nesbitt, a most popular preacher and successful pastor; then its unsettled church home, and finally its location in Bridgeport where the population is a "movable quantity" and the environments are unfavorable to Presbyterianism.

ROBERT J. DODD, M. D., one of the older and most prominent physicians of Montgomery county, is one of a long line of distinguished physicians and surgeons. He is a son of Dr. Robert J. and Ann (Sweeney) Dodd, and was born in the city of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, December 28, 1826. His paternal grandfather, Dr. Robert J. Dodd, was an educated and able physician of England, who came at thirty years of age to Philadelphia, where he practiced with success in the "Northern Liberties" and became prominent in his profession. His son, Dr. Robert J. Dodd, Jr., was born April 5, 1807, and studied medicine and surgery with Dr. George McClellan (father of General McClellan) with such proficiency that he passed successfully at nineteen years of age the examination for assistant surgeon in the United States navy, and was commissioned as such May 29, 1826. He served on the *Shark* in a cruise along the South American coast for pirates, was graduated from Jefferson Medical college in March, 1831, and passed a successful examination for the full grade of surgeon in the navy, his commission dating from April 4, 1831, and being signed by President Andrew Jackson. He was then on active service until 1847, and during that period was nearly thirteen years afloat. He circumnavigated the globe four times, was in China when the British opened certain ports there, and had several attacks of yellow fever, besides passing through a siege of African fever from whose effects he never fully recovered. His last service afloat was in the Mexican war, when he was one of a force of five hundred naval volunteers who protected the rear of Taylor's army when he left Corpus Christi to advance into northern Mexico. In 1847 Dr. Dodd was put in charge of the naval asylum at Philadelphia, and on March 3, 1871, was made medical director in the navy on the retired list, his commission being signed by President Grant, and he having risen by promotion to the relative rank of commodore. In 1850 he purchased a fine estate in Lower Merion and built on it a handsome mansion in which he died February 4, 1876, aged sixty-nine years, after a shore and sea duty in the navy of fourty-four years and seven months. He was considered an authority on yellow fever. He was a Republican and a Presbyterian, and during the late Civil war gave generously of his means to support the families of Union soldiers who were in the field. On January 28, 1825, Dr. Dodd married Ann Sweeney, who was a daughter of Morgan Sweeney, of Philadelphia, and died January 29, 1828, leaving one child, Robert J. In 1848, Dr. Dodd married for his second wife Hannah M. Bradlee, daughter of Josiah Bradlee, of Boston, Massachusetts. By his second union Dr. Dodd had no children.

Dr. Robert J. Dodd was reared in Philadelphia, received his education in private schools of his native city and the State of Massachusetts, and studied medicine and surgery with Dr. John McClellan, a brother of General George B. McClellan. He entered Jefferson Medical college in 1844, was graduated in 1848, and went West, where he practiced in Kentucky and Illinois up to 1861. He then came East and practiced in the State of Delaware until 1876, when the death of his father called him to Lower Merion to settle the estate of the latter. He has resided there ever since, and of late years has not been actively engaged in the practice of his profession. He is a Democrat in politics.

On April 18, 1848, Dr. Dodd was united in marriage with Mary Markley Ghriskey, a descendant of Jacob Markley, who settled in 1722 in Montgomery county.

MATHIAS GEIST, a prominent contractor and builder, of Pottstown, is a son of Richard and Harriet (Skean) Geist, and was born June 4, 1845, in Chester county, Pennsylvania. His father, Richard Geist, was also a native of Chester county, a carpenter by trade, and died December 30, 1889, aged seventy-seven years. In 1833 he married Harriet Skean, who was born in Montgomery county and had a family of six children: Amelia, Clementine, Samuel, all of whom died in infancy; Daniel W., a resident of Burlington county, New Jersey; Susan, deceased, and Mathias, the subject of this sketch. Mrs. Harriet Geist died March 22, 1886, and is buried beside her husband in the Pottstown cemetery.

Mathias Geist obtained his education in the public schools of his native county and followed farming while a young man. Later he learned the trade of carpenter, and after working at that business for a short time in Chester county came to Pottstown and engaged in the same occupation in this city. He subsequently entered the employ of the Philadelphia & Reading raiload company as superintendent and foreman in the carpenter department of the company. Mr. Geist remained with that company for a period of twenty years, during which he manifested skill and ability in all branches of his trade and won a fine reputation as an expert workman. In 1885 he resigned his position as foreman and engaged in contracting and building on his own account at Pottstown. A knowledge of his exceptional fitness soon led to a large demand for his services, especially where beauty of design and excellence of construction were demanded. Among his first contracts was one from the Philadelphia & Reading railroad company, his former employers, for the building of their passenger station at Pottsville. Among the many prominent buildings constructed under his personal supervision since may be named the Presbyterian church, the Fifth street Methodist church, the Reformed church, the T. J. March business block, and the residences of William S. Ellis, James A. Healy, H. Wells, H. G. Kulp, Livingston Saylor, Mrs. Streeper, P. L. Egolf and W. H. Eck, all of Pottstown; the magnificent country house of W. D. Windsor, of the Boston Steamship line, at Ardmore, Pennsylvania; the First Presbyterian church of Shamokin, another at Bloomsburg and the freight house of the Allentown Terminal railroad at Allentown. If further testimony were needed to establish the superiority of his workmanship it may be found in the Textile works at Pottstown; the paint shops of the Reading

Mathias Geist

railroad at Reading, the March-Brownback stove foundry at Pottstown, the Shuler hotel at Pottstown, the United Brethern church of Pottstown, and the fine residences of James B. McCamant, Augustus Dotterer, John Landis and many others. It may truthfully be stated that most of the prominent buildings erected in Pottstown since Mr. Geist began business here have been constructed under his supervision.

Politically Mr. Geist is a Democrat, but has always preferred to devote his time to business rather than to politics. He served one term as a member of the city council. He is a Knight Templar Mason and has passed through all the chairs of his lodge and chapter. He is also a member of the Royal Arcanum of Pottstown.

On December 7, 1871 Mr. Geist was married to Hannah E. Longaker, a daughter of the late Rufus B. and Elizabeth (Smith) Longaker. (See sketch of Hon. Montgomery S. Longaker on another page of this book for ancestral history of the Longaker family).

To Mr. and Mrs. Geist have been born two children, Elizabeth L. and Harry C. Mr. Geist and his wife are members of the Reformed church.

WILLIAM J. BINDER, editor and proprietor of the weekly and daily *Montgomery Ledger*, of Pottstown, is a son of John and Mary Ann (Steltz) Binder, and was born in East Nantmeal township, Chester county, Pennsylvania, September 30, 1843. His paternal great-grandfather came from Germany, and his son, Jacob Binder, was the father of John Binder, who was born at Yellow Springs, Chester county. John Binder was reared principally in Montgomery county, and in 1835 returned to his native county where he remained until 1856. In that year he came to Pottstown where he resided until his death which occurred in February 1866, when in the fifty-eighth year of his age. He followed carpentering and farming to some extent in early life, but being a man of good education he devoted the larger part of his active life to teaching. He taught in the common schools of both Chester and Montgomery counties, and after coming to Pottstown conducted a private school there until his health failed. He was a Democrat prior to the late Civil war, but during that great struggle for national existence he became a supporter of the Republican party and remained in its ranks until his death. He was active in local, civil and political affairs but never sought or wanted any office. He was a member and official of the Methodist Episcopal church, and married Mary Ann Steltz, a daughter of Valentine Steltz, of New Hanover. They had four children: Aaron, of Company A, 2d Minnesota veteran infantry, now deceased; Elizabeth, wife of David Herst, of Easton, Pennsylvania; Tamsen, widow of Jeremiah H. Binder, of Pottstown, and William J., (subject).

William J. Binder at thirteen years of age came with his parents to Pottstown where he has resided ever since. He received his education in the public schools and the Hill school, then conducted by its founder, Professor Matthew Meigs, LL. D. At an early age he entered the printing office of the weekly *Montgomery Ledger*, founded October 1, 1843, and learned the "art preservative of all arts."

In the year 1866 he purchased from the late William L. Williamson a half-interest in the paper, and thirteen years later, in September, 1879, became the sole pro-

prietor of the *Ledger*. Mr. Binder made his weekly paper neutral in politics and has made many improvements on it since. It is a nine column folio, thirty by forty-four inches.

While still but part owner of the weekly, in 1873 Mr. Binder saw the opportunity for a daily, and during that year started the *Daily Ledger* with his partner, Lewis H. Davis, which has grown and prospered until it is now one of the leading dailies of the county. The daily is independent in politics. It is a four page, eight column sheet, twenty-six by thirty-six inches in dimensions. It is the oldest daily paper of Pottstown and has a large circulation.

On December 26, 1867, Mr. Binder married Mary H. Hilton, a daughter of James and Margaret Hilton, natives of England but residents of Glasgow, this county. To Mr. and Mrs. Binder have been born nine children: Hilton S., local and assistant editor on the *Ledger*; Mary E., wife of C. G. Bockus; Ella M.; Bessie A.; Edith H.; Laura D., deceased; John K., Florence B. and Chester M.

Although neutral and independent as an editor, yet William J. Binder is an ardent Republican but no politician. He is a deacon of the Methodist Episcopal church in which he is an active worker. During the late Civil war Mr. Binder left his case to take up arms in his country's defense. He served in the 26th Penna. Emergency Regiment in the Gettysburg campaign, and afterward was a private in Co. E, 105th Pennsylvania veteran infantry, from which he was honorably discharged June, 1865. He saw the last sun of Confederacy set at Appomattox court-house. He is a member of M. E. Richards Post, 595, Grand Army of the Republic.

CHARLES H. MILLER, justice of the peace and one of the most successful insurance men in Lansdale, is an American by birth and ancestry and his forefathers were among the early settlers of Montgomery county. He is a son of Henry S. and Hannah (Heebner) Miller, and was born at Norristown, on the 7th of April, 1859. Henry Miller, his grandfather, was a carpenter by occupation and was well-known as a staunch Democrat. He was born in Marlboro township, where he lived all his life.

Henry S. Miller, father of our subject, was born in Marlboro township, on November 20, 1820. He was sent to the pay schools of the district and was then apprenticed to learn the trade of millwright. This he followed for some years but finally made a decided change and came to Norristown where he opened a well equipped jewelry store, having also mastered that trade. Mr. Miller was a thoroughly self-made man. He had had very little schooling, but he was a constant reader and became very well informed in many topics. He was very quick to master the details of anything in the mechanical line and could turn his hand to almost any kind of work in this line. He was a Democrat and a very enthusiastic political worker. The family are all members of the Reformed church. Mr. Miller was united in marriage to Hannah Heebner and four children were born to this estimable couple: Levina, who was born October 4, 1851, married George W. Cathorn and died April 11, 1889; Amanda M., born September 22, 1852, died July 10, 1890; Harry H., born September 15, 1854, at Norristown, and Charles H. our subject. Mrs. Miller died on February 13, 1871, and four years later on April 5, 1875, Mr. Miller passed away.

Charles H. Miller, the youngest of the children, was left an orphan at the early age of ten years, and this cut short his school days. He is a self-made man in every sense of the word. At twelve years of age he went to work on a farm and followed this occupation until he had attained his majority. For several years he found employment with Doctors Groff and Keeler, and then with Heebner & Sons of Lansdale. Sometime later he engaged in the insurance business which he has followed ever since with great success.

Mr. Miller has been prominent in the affairs of the Republican party in this county and has always been an active worker. He was appointed tax-collector in 1894 to serve three years, and was also assessor of taxes for several years. In the spring of 1893 he was elected justice of the peace and is still exercising the functions of that office.

Mr. Miller was married on the 22d of November, 1879, to Amanda Schissler, of Lower Salford township, Montgomery county, Pa. One child has been born to bless this union: Harry S., who was born at Harleysville, on February 27, 1883.

MATHIAS WEBER, M. D., who has been engaged in the active practice of his profession at Evansburg for nearly fifteen years, is a son of Rev. Jesse S. and Mary (Yost) Weber, and was born at Evansburg, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, July 8, 1858. He received his elementary education in the common schools and then attended Ursinus College for two years. Leaving college he taught school for two years and then in 1878 entered the medical department of the University of Pennsylvania, from which he was graduated in the class of 1881. After graduation he returned to Evansburg, where he has practiced his profession continously and successfully up to the present time. Dr. Weber is a member of the Montgomery County Medical society, and has served for some time as physician to the county home. He is a member of the Junior Order of United American Mechanics, and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

In 1882 Dr. Weber married Anna R. Casselberry, daughter of D. Morgan Casselberry, of Evansburg. To their union have been born six children: Jesse S., Morgan C., Alice R., Harry deceased, Mary E. and John M.

Dr. Weber is a member of St. James' Episcopal church, with which he has been officially connected for some time.

JHAGY YOCUM, the owner of "Norwood," near Bryn Mawr, and the proprietor of one of the largest dairies in the southeastern part of the State, is a son of Benjamin B. and Harriet (Hagy) Yocum, and was born on the old Yocum homestead in Lower Merion township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, January 8, 1831. He was reared on the farm, received his education in the common schools of his township and then was engaged in farming with his father until 1854, in which year he bought and occupied property at Conshohocken. In 1856 he purchased the "Norwood" country seat in Lower Merion township, and near Bryn Mawr, on which he has resided ever since. Soon after removing to "Norwood," he started a dairy, which has steadily increased in size until it is now one of the largest of its kind in southeastern Pennsylvania. He supplies butter regularly

to one of the largest and leading markets of Philadelphia, and is recognized as one of the progressive farmers and dairymen of the county.

On September 15, 1864, Mr. Yocum wedded Hannah Emily Crawford, who was a daughter of Joseph and Hannah Crawford, and died March 14, 1889, aged fifty-eight years. To Mr. and Mrs. Yocum was born one child, Annie C. Y., who married William M. Brownback, a son of James and Ellen (March) Brownback, of Linfield, and a member of the firm of the March–Brownback Stove company, stove manufacturers of Pottstown.

J. Hagy Yocum is a Republican, and attends Calvary Episcopal church of Conshohocken, Pa. He is a director and the president of the Spring Garden market of Philadelphia, and vice-president of the Gladywin Electric Street Railway company. Mr. Yocum has been identified for many years with every movement for good roads in his part of the county, and has been largely instrumental in the surveying and making of the excellent public highways for which his community is so widely known.

Peter Yocum, the original ancestor of the American branch of the Yocum family, came from Sweden and helped to found the Wiaco settlement, near the site of Philadelphia, several years before the coming of Penn. He was a juryman in the Upland court in 1681, and with other Swedes settled at Swedes Ford, this county, the next year. He was appointed supervisor of highways from Karker's mills to the Falls of Schuykill, and in 1693, his family consisted of nine persons. He resided near William Rambo, and while no record is in existence of his sons names, yet there is no doubt that one of them was named Peter, and figures in the assessment list of 1734. This Peter Yocum, the younger, married and his third son, Andrew, born in 1739, was the father of John Yocum, born in 1766.

This John Yocum lived on what is now the Frederick Phillips farm, which is near West Conshohocken, and was the paternal grandfather of the subject of this sketch. John Yocum was a shoemaker, and spent his life in Lower Merion township, where he married Martha Thomas. Their son, Benjamin Brook Yocum (father), was born November 26, 1801, and died March 8, 1868, in the room in which he was born.

He was a machinist by trade, but in early life engaged in farming and dealing in cattle, which he followed up to the time of his death. He was a Whig and Republican, served in the State militia, was a justice of the peace for several terms, and served as a school director for many years.

In 1828 he married Harriet Hagy, who was born March 8, 1808, and died June 21, 1895. Mr. and Mrs. Yocum had nine children: Hannah J., Hagy, John, died in the Union army; Emily, Joseph C., Crawford, George, who died from the effects of exposure in the Union army; Dr. Benjamin B., of Philadelphia, now dead; and Isaac DeH., a resident and member of the bar of Philadelphia, Pa.

DANIEL ROBERTS BROWER, M. D., was born in Manayunk, Pennsylvania, October 13, 1839. His father was Daniel Rife Brower, a descendent of the Brower family who very early settled on the Schuylkill river in Montgomery county. His mother was Ann Billop Farmer. Her

D. D. Bowden

father was a Major in the English army, who, while on duty with his regiment met her mother, Ann Pawling, a daughter of Major Pawling, a Tory, during the Revolutionary war. They were married, and after the close of the war he resigned his commission and made his home in Pennsylvania.

Shortly after Daniel Roberts Brower was born, the family moved to Phoenixville and there his education began under a very clever teacher. When he was thirteen years of age the family moved to Norristown, Pennsylvania, and he entered Treemount Seminary, then an excellent school, under the charge of Rev. Samuel Aaron. There he was prepared for entrance into the Polytechnic college of Philadelphia, from which he graduated with honors as a master of mining engineering His inaugural address on the ventilation and drainage of mines was complimented by being published in full, with favorable editorial comment, in *The London* (England) *Mining Engineer*, the then leading publication of the world. He followed the profession of mine engineering about one year in western Virginia; he then in response to that which had been the ardent desire of his life for many years, began the study of medicine, and in February, 1864, graduated from the medical department of Georgetown University.

Shortly before graduation he passed the army medical board of examiners then sitting in Washington, D. C., and was commissioned assistant surgeon United States Volunteers. He was assigned to duty at the United States General Hospital, Portsmouth, Va. After a short service there he was ordered to the general hospital at Fortress Monroe, Va., then the largest hospital in the United States, and here his surgical service was very active and extensive, and continued until he was ordered to Norfolk, Va. as chief medical officer of the military district of eastern Virginia. He continued in this capacity until 1866 when he organized under the Freedman's bureau at Richmond, Va., the first hospital for the care of insane freedmen. In 1868 he was elected medical superintendent of the Eastern Lunatic asylum of Virginia at Williamsburg, and served in this capacity until the autumn of 1875. While in this position he quite generally remodeled the buildings and introduced many reforms in the care and treatment of the insane. Among other things he established schools, shops for various industries, systematic exercises, and a constant succession of varied amusements, and purchased a farm for the occupation of the patients, and a supply of various farm products.

In 1875 he removed to Chicago, Illinois, with his family, consisting of a wife, the daughter of Col. A. W. Shearer and Eunice Norris Schrack Shearer, whom he married May 15th, 1868, and two children, a daughter and a son. In Chicago he began at once the practice of his profession, devoting himself specially to the treatment of mental and nervous diseases.

He is now the Professor of mental diseases, materia medica and therapeutics in Rush medical college, the oldest and largest medical college in the northwest; Professor of mental and nervous diseases in the Woman's school of the Northwestern university, and Professor of mental and nervous diseases in the Post Graduate Medical school of Chicago. He is the neurologist to the St. Joseph's hospital, Wesley hospital, and Cook county hospital, all of Chicago. He is consulting physician to the Presbyterian hospital, Woman's hospital, State of Illinois Woman's and Children's hospital

and the Washingtonian home, all of Chicago.

He has been president of the State Medical society of Illinois, of the Chicago Medical society and of the Medico-Legal society of Chicago. He was for a number of years the editor of the *Chicago Medical Journal.*

He has been a frequent contributor to various medical journals, selecting his topics usually from mental and nervous diseases.

He has devoted considerable time to the study of geology, mineralogy, botany and anthropology, especially criminal anthropology. He is regarded as an excellent lecturer, and in addition to the lectures given by him, both clinical and didactic, at the several medical colleges, he frequently addresses non professional audiences on various topics, especially anthropological.

HON. CHARLES HUNSICKER, one of the leading members of the Montgomery county bar, is a son of Hon. Joseph and Elizabeth (Meyer) Hunsicker, and was born in Upper Providence township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, October 26, 1835. The Hunsickers are of Swiss lineage, and they first settled in this county on the waters of the Perkiomen creek, where Rev. John Hunsicker, the grandfather of Charles Hunsicker, was born and reared. He was a large landholder and extensive farmer in Upper Providence township, and served for many years as a minister of the Mennonite church. He married and reared a family of six children, three sons and three daughters. The sons were: Joseph, Henry D. and Garrett. Hon. Joseph Hunsicker was born May 29, 1798, received a thorough English education, and upon attaining his majority turned his attention to dealing in lumber as well as to the management and cultivation of his farm. His business operations were such as to bring him in contact with quite a number of people, and the Democratic party nominated him in 1848 for Associate Judge, to which position he was elected. He served from 1849 to 1854, was a man of high standing and great influence, and died December 1, 1870, when well advanced in the seventy-third year of his age. He married Elizabeth Meyer, who was a daughter of Jacob Meyer, of this county, and passed away December 10, 1888, at eighty-six years of age. Their children were: John M., Samuel, Joseph W., Mrs Anna E. Henkels, Davis and Charles, the subject of this sketch.

Charles Hunsicker was reared in his native township, attended the common schools and pursued his academic studies at Washington Hall institute and Freeland seminary, the latter of which institutions was afterwards merged into Ursinus college. Upon completing his academic course he was so well fitted for college that although but fifteen years of age he was enabled to enter the Sophomore class of Union college, Schenectady, New York, from which institution of learning he was graduated in the class of 1855. Leaving college when but in his nineteenth year he chose law for his profession, and after two years of reading with Hon. James Boyd, of Norristown, was admitted to the Montgomery county bar in August, 1857, at the early age of twenty-one years. His legal ability and natural aptitude for his chosen profession soon won for him position, prestige and practice. As a matter of preference Mr. Hunsicker has chiefly practiced in the courts of his native county, although inducements have been offered

Chas. W. Hunnicutt

A. H. Drake M. D.

him to practice in other counties and before the higher courts of the State, where he often appears in Montgomery county cases.

On June 13, 1865, Mr. Hunsicker was united in marriage with Margaret Schall, a daughter of General William Schall, of Norristown. To their union were born two sons, Edwin S., who was graduated from Union college in the class of 1895, and James Rittenhouse, now studying medicine in the Jefferson Medical college, Philadelphia.

Charles Hunsicker served during the late civil war as adjutant of the Fourth Pennsylvania volunteers for some time and twice afterwards acted for a short period as lieutenant of a Pennsylvania company. In politics Mr. Hunsicker is a Democrat. In 1865 he was elected district attorney of Montgomery county, and after the close of his three years' term was chosen a delegate to the State constitutional convention of 1872, in which he took an active and useful part. While serving as a member of that important body he introduced a section that provided for a review of county criminal trials by the Supreme court of the State, which met with defeat in the constitution, but was of such value and practical utility that it was afterwards made a law by the legislature. In 1884 he was a delegate to the Chicago Democratic National convention which nominated Grover Cleveland for president of the United States. Mr. Hunsicker is a member of the Norristown Reformed church, in which he served as trustee for many years. He has served as trustee of the Pennsylvania Hospital for the insane for the eastern district of this State and has held numerous other official positions.

Charles Hunsicker brings to his legal practice a large amount of experience acquired through nearly forty years of successful practice at the bar. This, together with his extensive knowledge of men and things, and his thorough knowledge of law renders him well able to cope with all the difficulties that any intricate case may present.

HOWARD HENRY DRAKE, M. D., a successful medical practitioner of Norristown, Pennsylvania, and a collateral descendant of Sir Francis Drake, one of the early and most distinguished explorers of the American coast, is a son of Henry and Elizabeth Ann (Dance) Drake, and was born in Norristown, March 6, 1857. His father, Henry Drake, was born in Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, in the year 1813, and died at Norristown, Pa., in August, 1866. His first business was that of merchandising, in which he attained more than an ordinary degree of success, but he finally drifted into politics. Possessed of strong personal magnetism and good organizing powers, he was a potent factor in the Democratic politics of his county and State for many years, and served as recorder of deeds and deputy county treasurer. Mr. Drake was twice married. His first marital union was with Elizabeth Ann Dance, who passed to the spirit world on March 13, 1857, at the age of twenty-seven years, soon after the birth of their son, the subject of this biographical sketch. His second and last marriage was with Caroline Dotterer, daughter of the late Philip Dotterer.

H. H. Drake obtained his elementary education in the public schools of Norristown, at Ursinus and Franklin and Marshall colleges. Leaving college in 1875, he entered upon the study of medicine under the preceptorship of Dr. George A. King, of

Lancaster, Pa., and was graduated from the Jefferson Medical college at Philadelphia in the class of 1878. Immediately after graduation he located in his native town, where he has since been engaged in active and successful practice, and where by professional skill and close application, he has built up a large and remunerative practice.

Dr. Drake is thoroughly equipped for his professional work, keeps in touch with the leaders of his profession, and is alive to every new thought or improved method discovered or suggested for the treatment of disease by the experienced medical men of the world. He is a member of the American Medical association, of the State Medical association and Montgomery County Medical society, the former of which he ably served as president in 1888. For eight years he officiated as prison physician of the Montgomery county prison, and for three years was coroner's physician during the term of Henry B. Long, and is now physician and surgeon to the charity hospital. Politically he affiliates with the Democratic party, and is prominently identified with Masonic fraternity as a member of Charity Lodge No. 190, F. & A. M.; Chapter No 190, R. A. M., and Hutchinson Commandery No. 32, K. T.

On May 20, 1879, Dr. Drake and Miss Mazie L. Youngman, a daughter of the late James L. Youngman, of Lancaster, were happily married, and unto their marital union have been born three children: Mary E., Mabel B. and H. Stanley.

BELLETT LAWSON, JR., superintendent of Riverside cemetery, at Norristown, is a son of Bellett and Theresa (Stott) Lawson, and was born in Liverpool, England, April 16, 1870. Bellett Lawson, sr., was born and reared at Liverpool, England, where he was engaged in landscape gardening from boyhood until 1879. In that year he came with his family to Buffalo, New York, where remained but a short time. He next removed to Atlanta, Georgia, and was there successfully engaged in landscape gardening for upwards of twelve years. At the end of that time, in 1892, he went to Chicago, Illinois, and became superintendent of Oakwood cemetery of that great city, which important position he still holds. Mr. Lawson is an expert in his occupation and ranks as one of the best landscape gardeners of America. His excellent work at Buffalo and Savannah made him favorably known in the east and south, while the taste and tact and fine judgment that he has displayed in addition to professional skill and artistic workmanship in remodeling, improving and beautifying Oakwood cemetery at Chicago, has given him high and wide reputation throughout the country. Mr. Lawson married Theresa Stott, a native of Liverpool, England.

Bellett Lawson, Jr., was but nine years of age when his parents came to the United States and was principally reared at Savannah, Georgia, where he attended the city schools, and subsequently entered the business college from which he was graduated in 1890. The ensuing year he went with his father to Chicago, where he assisted the latter in the management of Oakwood cemetery until April, 1894. In that month he came to Norristown and accepted the superintendency of Riverside cemetery, which he planned and laid out at the western limit of the borough and fronting the Schuylkill river. Riverside cemetery contains thirty acres of level land and is one of the best designed and handsomest ceme-

teries in the State. Mr. Lawson designed it to some extent after Spring Grove cemetery of Cincinnati, which is generally conceded to be the finest cemetery in America. Over fifty thousand dollars have been expended upon Riverside cemetery under the direction of its superintendent, and it is growing in beauty every day, while it well may be an object of pride to Norristown. Many larger cities have more extensive and more costly cemeteries that can in no wise compare with Riverside cemetery.

Skilled and proficient, Mr. Lawson has given his best thought and most earnest efforts to the designing and completion of a model city cemetery in Riverside, whose beauty has a charm for every visitor.

JAMES K. CLEMMER, who owns the large grist and saw mills at Spring Mount, is a business man of note in Montgomery county. He is the son of J. S. and Sallie (Culp) Clemmer, and was born in Franconia township on the first of September, 1861. He is descended from Montgomery county ancestry and his forefathers have been well known and highly respected in the section mentioned for many generations. John Clemmer, his grandfather, was born in Franconia township, and was a prosperous farmer. He pinned his political faith to the principles of the Republican party and was one of its staunchest adherents. He was a life-long member of the Mennonite church and was a consistent Christian. In 1861 he died at the advanced age of seventy-two years. J. S. Clemmer, father of J. K. Clemmer, was also a native of Franconia township. He was sent to the schools of his township until he was fifteen years old. He was then put to work on the farm and when he came to man's estate was the owner of a large farm, which he managed all his life. He is a preacher in the Mennonite church and is beloved by all who know him. Politically he followed in the views of his father and is nominally a Republican. He is still living at fifty-eight years of age.

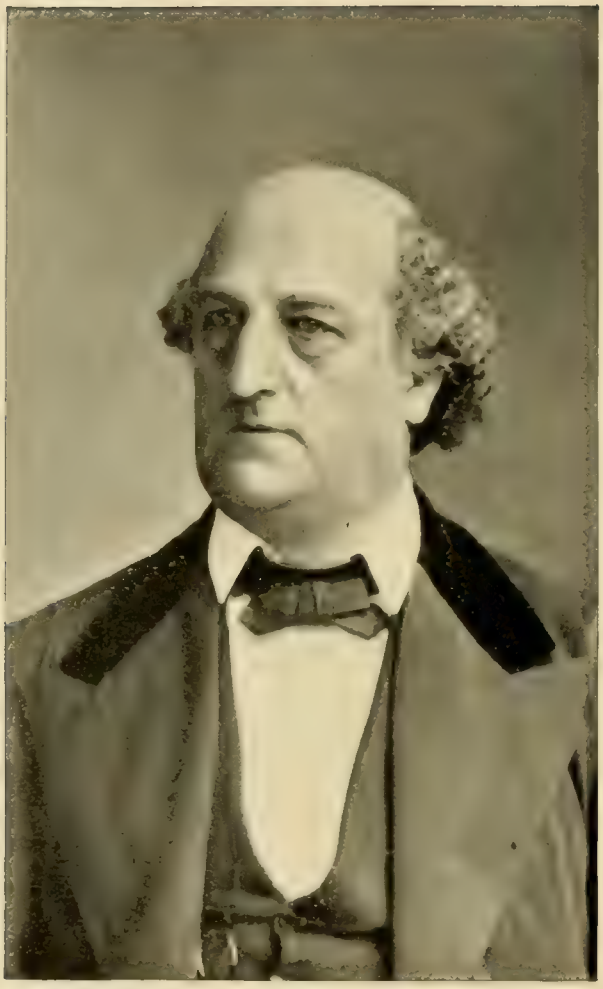
J. K. Clemmer, the subject of this sketch, attended the public schools until he was sixteen years old and then worked on his father's farm until he was twenty-one. He then moved on a farm in Upper Salford township in 1884. This farm contained one hundred and three acres and was good productive land. In 1893 Mr. Clemmer bought the grist mill and saw mill at Spring Mount. He does a very large business, and is prominent in the mercantile life of his section. He resides at his mill in a large and historic house. His property is valued at eight thousand dollars, and he does a business of $30,000 a year. In connection with his mill he handles all kinds of feed, and is without doubt the most prosperous man in this line of business in the township. In politics he is a Republican and is in religion an active Christian worker in the Mennonite church.

Mr. Clemmer was married, on April 15, 1882, to Elizabeth, daughter of Jacob and Elizabeth Freed. They have had two children: Elmer, born April 2, 1883, and Jacob Howard, born March 20, 1887. The latter, however, died at the tender age of five months.

ANDREW J. PENNINGTON, a well-known citizen and prominent business man, is a son of John C. and Sally A. (Hill) Pennington, and was born at Mt.

Hope, Bucks county, Pennsylvania, August 20, 1865. The Pennington family is of English extraction, and traces its ancestry back to William Pennstock, but the name was finally changed to Pennington. Three brothers of this family emigrated from their native country to America, one of whom located at what is now Pennington, New Jersey; another settled at Wilmington, Delaware; and the third, from which the subject of this sketch is descended, located at West Grove, Chester county. Great-grandfather Pennington was a resident of West Grove, where he lived all his life. Mr. Pennington's grandfather resided at the same place as his father, where he was engaged in the milling business. He was a member of the Society of Friends, in the interests of which he took an active part. He united in marriage and had eight children: Lewis, Nehemiah, Job, Thomas, Sophia Thompson, Maria Frye, John C., and Amanda Baker. John C. Pennington (father) was reared at West Grove, where at sixteen years of age he became engaged in the milling business with his father. After the death of his father, he operated the mill for a few years, and then associated himself with J. B. Moorehead in railroad contracting. They took a large contract on the Erie railroad and built the first street railway in Washington city. For a time Mr. Pennington served as superintendent of the Delaware division of the Lehigh Navigation company's canal, and showed great efficiency in his management of affairs there. In 1873 he engaged in the iron business at Sterling, New York, and at the end of two years became general manager of the iron business operated by the Merion Iron company at Conshohocken. He served in this capacity until 1880, and six years afterward was employed by the Lehigh Navigation company to build a dam across the Lehigh river near Mauch Chunk. Some time afterward he was appointed superintendent of water power of the Warren Water company, at their works at Wiggles and at Warren, New Jersey. Remaining in this capacity for a time he then returned to West Conshohocken, where he resumed his former position with the Merion company. While serving in this last position he had as many as fifteen hundred men at a time under his employ. He always showed zeal and ability wherever he was engaged. Politically he was a Republican and a close adherent of the Society of Friends. He was also a member of the Masonic Fraternity. He married Sallie A. Hill, and to this union were born five children: William J., Alfred H., Andrew J., Harry P., and Mrs. Sue Horn.

Andrew J. Pennington was educated in the high school at Conshohocken, where he was graduated at the age of fourteen. Leaving school, he engaged with Ely & Williams, iron and steel merchants, of Philadelphia, with whom he remained six years. He then joined the J. Ellwood Lee company, at Conshohocken, large surgical instrument manufacturers, and served as manager of their large tubing department for six years. After this he was successively in charge of various departments of their business and travelled through the different parts of the county, being superintendent of the company's salesmen. Later he became manager of the American Surgical company, organized January 1, 1895, with Daniel Steward, jr., president; George E. Steese, vice president; Jno. B. Finney, secretary; and Jno. S. Bate, treasurer. This company has erected a fine two story brick building forty feet by one hundred and forty feet in dimensions. Their plant



James Boyd

will furnish employment for sixty men. The company will also employ three western and two eastern salesmen, whose business it will be to make sales for all kinds of surgical goods. Mr. Pennington is a Republican, member of the council and also auditor of West Conshohocken, where he cast his first vote on becoming of age. He is a member of Washington Camp, Patriotic Order Sons of America.

On October 1, 1889, Andrew Pennington was united in marriage with Alice E. Bate, who died July 20, 1890. This union was blessed with one child, Alice M. On April 14, 1892, Mr. Pennington again wedded, which union has resulted in an issue of two children: John C., jr.; and Clara G.

HON. JAMES BOYD. The ancients held that each person was born under the influence of a particular star, which ruled his or her destiny. So we moderns more accurately and philosophically affirm that each inherits mental and moral characteristics which, within certain limits, give the keynote of his or her future with nearly as much certainty as the decrees of Fate. For convenience also, mankind may be divided into two classes, the positive and negative, bearing strict relation to their mental and moral force or their lack of those qualities. Strong characters are irrepressible, while the opposite are content to mix and gravitate with the undistinguished mass.

Mental force and will power give the clue to the success of the gentleman whose name stands at the head of this sketch, as will appear by what is briefly stated hereafter.

Colonel James Boyd, as he is usually called, of the Norristown bar, is of Irish or English lineage, his parents coming from Virginia to Fayette county, Pennsylvania, where he was born on the 29th of March, 1821. During his minority his father, Jeremiah Boyd, removed to a place near Norristown, and engaged in business. While so continuing James was receiving his education, first at an academy in Philadelphia and afterwards at Haddington college, Germantown. For a brief period just before his majority, he engaged in the apothecary business, but not finding it in accordance with his tastes, very soon abandoned it, and entered the office of the late Daniel H. Mulvany, Esq., as a student of law. He was admitted August 16, 1842, and almost at once entered upon a successful practice. From the start his will force and bold energy brought him into nearly every criminal prosecution on one side or another, and it was early observed and commented by disinterested parties that "Boyd worked just as hard with a weak cause as a strong one, or for a poor client as a rich one." This natural result of his amazing positiveness and professional energy of course made his fortune. But his belligerent and dogmatic style of practice brought its author into many a forensic tilt with his brethren, testing judicial firmness and courtesy to the utmost.

With ripened experience, however, and a growing commercial and corporation practice, he has gradually swung out of the line of petty criminal trials. With the jury of average will, intelligence, and force of character, Mr. Boyd is nearly omnipotent, as he rarely fails to carry their minds by the impetuosity of his mental charge. But with men of opposite character he often fails by his mere boldness and invective in the ability to sustain the weak

points of a case on which reliance is sometimes placed.

For a long time Mr. Boyd has been a considerable stockholder in banks and other corporations of the locality, and a director in many of them, thus accumulating money rapidly in addition to his legal business. Since 1852 he has been retained as counsel for the Reading Railroad company, attending to all its interests in the county, for which service he receives a large salary. It is understood that he was in 1870 largely instrumental in leasing the Norristown railroad to the Philadelphia and Reading corporation.

Mr. Boyd entered public life as a Whig, and so continued up to 1856. But that year, like many other of our leading citizens who could not accept the necessity of anti-slavery issues, he refused to enter the Republican party, and voted for James Buchanan. He has remained in the Democratic party ever since; yet during the war that ensued he gave the government active support, being appointed commissioner to conduct the draft for troops. In 1871 he was nominated on the Democratic ticket and elected a member of the State Constitutional convention, and took an active part in its proceedings. At the conclusion of the sittings, however, he refused to append his name to the instrument, this decision arising from his disagreement with some of its provisions. To his lasting credit, also, he refused to accept the extra pay that its members had voted themselves, as he thought it contrary to law.

His refusal or singularity in these matters, as in many others, arises from his bold independence of character; and this, with his well known badinage and dry humor, may be set down as marked peculiarities, or eccentricities, as some prefer to call them. His humor always takes the shape of irony or ridicule, hitting off the absurdities or pretences of others with a face as grave as a tomb-stone.

His invective, power of sarcasm, and ridicule, while making him a terrible opponent in court or on the rostrum, disqualify him for a political leader, for no party trammels would hold him, and his blunt, outspoken frankness would get him enemies where he sought friends. Hence Mr. Boyd is in no true sense a politician.

In 1848 Mr. Boyd was married to Sarah, youngest daughter of Samuel Jamison, sr., the owner of large cotton mills in Norristown. Their eldest son, Robert, died when seven or eight years old. Wallace J. is also deceased. The only child surviving is Howard, treasurer of the Perkiomen and and Stony Creek railroads and several other well known corporations. The former was a member of the Montgomery county bar, had served as burgess of Norristown, and in 1881 was elected to the State legislature. He died in December of the same year. Mrs. Boyd died suddenly of heart disease in 1876, and is buried in a handsomely ornamented tomb in Montgomery cemetery.

Having had a very lucrative law practice for more than fifty years, a large and profitable interest in a stone quarry at Conshohocken, a number of farms, and being a stockholder in numerous business and other corporations, Colonel Boyd is reputed among the wealthy men of Norristown. Personally, he is considered rather unapproachable, grave in manner, even to the point of austerity, but withal a man of genuine kindliness of heart and broad human sympathy.

His varied and cumulated experience, and his attainments as a lawyer, advocate, and publicist, together with his wide ac-

quaintance with men and modern vagaries, make Colonel Boyd an interesting and unique personality.

J. P. HALE JENKINS, a prominent member of the Norristown bar, is a son of Charles Todd and Sarah L. (Lukens) Jenkins, and is a native of Hatfield township, this county, where he was born January 13, 1851. The family from which he descended was of Welsh origin, and was transplanted to America as early as 1729, by Jenkin Jenkins, who came over from Wales in that year and settled in what is now Montgomery county. They are distinguished for longevity, many of the Jenkins having attained a ripe old age. One of the sons of Jenkin Jenkins was John Jenkins, paternal great-great-grandfather of the subject of this sketch, whose son John served as a first lieutenant in the American army during the Revolutionary war, and personally underwent the trials and privations which marked those portentious days of mingled pathos and patriotism. When the war cloud had lifted and the light of independence shone in its stead, John Jenkins resumed the employments of peace, and reared a large family, among whom was a son named for himself. After attaining manhood, this John Jenkins (grandfather) married Ann Todd, a daughter of John Todd and a grand-neice of General Porter, of Revolutionary fame. He engaged in agricultural pursuits and became somewhat prominent in local affairs. Politically he was a Jacksonian Democrat, and at one time or other held all the official positions in his township. From his long tenure of that office he was familiarly known among the people as "assessor John," and in his old age was almost universally addressed as "uncle John." He died at North Wales, this county, in 1880, in the ninety-seventh year of his age. By his marriage to Ann Todd, he had a family of eight children, the eldest of whom was Charles Todd Jenkins (father), who was born in Gwynedd township, this county, April 3, 1812. There he grew to manhood, receiving a good common school education, and later engaged in farming, which occupation he followed for many years. He now resides in Hatfield township, at the age of eighty-three, and practically retired from all business pursuits. In politics he is a Republican, and before the Civil war was an ardent abolitionist. During his more active years he took a prominent part in local politics, and was twice a candidate for county treasurer, but failed of election because the county was then strongly Democratic. Always public spirited, he has taken a lively interest in civic affairs and been a firm friend of popular education, serving as school director for a number of years. In his religious affiliations he is a member of the Society of Friends. For some years he has been president of the Lexington Fire Insurance company, and treasurer of the Spring House and Hilltown Turnpike Road company. In 1840 he married Sarah Lukens, a daughter of George Lukens, of Towamencin township, Montgomery county, Penna. Her ancestors were of Dutch descent, coming originally from Amsterdam, Holland, and settling here at the time of William Penn's second voyage to Pennsylvania. To their union was born a family of eight children: George L., now a member of the firm of Burgen & Co., manufacturers of glass bottles, Philadelphia; Comly, formerly prominent in Montgomery county politics and a

candidate for the office of prothonotary, but now a resident of Philadelphia; Parker, the freight agent for the Philadelphia and Reading railroad at Colmar, this county; J. P. Hale, the subject of this sketch; Ella, married Oliver M. Evans, teller of the First National bank of Lansdale, this county; Learie, wedded George W. Chapin, a member of the firm of Fleming & Chapin, commission merchants of Philadelphia and residing at Wayne, Delaware county; and two who died in infancy. Mrs. Sarah L. Jenkins is still living, being now in the eightieth year of her age.

J. P. Hale Jenkins was reared on the old Jenkins homestead near Colmar, Hatfield township, this county, and educated in the public schools and at Pierce's Business college, in the city of Philadelphia. He then studied law with Hon. George N. Corson, of Norristown, and was admitted to the bar April 30, 1874, at the age of twenty-three. Soon afterward he opened an office in Norristown and began the practice of his profession, in which he has been ever since continuously engaged. He has won standing at the bar and is known for his legal attainments. For six consecutive years he has been the solicitor of the town council of Norristown, and has acted in the same capacity for the board of directors of the poor for a period of ten years. In addition to his law practice, Mr. Jenkins has been prominently identified with a number of large business enterprises in this county and elsewhere. For fourteen years he has been a director in the Fidelity Mutual Life association of Philadelphia, and is also a director of the Stony Creek Railroad company, the Perkiomen Railroad company, the Philadelphia, Newtown and New York Railroad company, and the Norristown Title, Trust and Safe Deposit company. Since 1877 he has been secretary of the Excelsior Saving Fund and Loan association, of Norristown, and for ten years was president of the Humane Fire company. In 1886 he served as president of the State Firemen's association of Pennsylvania, and was actively interested in the movement which culminated in the centennial celebration of the evacuation of Valley Forge, in 1878, and subsequently took an active part in the movement leading to the passage of the bill creating Valley Forge park. Incidental to these movements, he edited a book entitled "Valley Forge," containing the anniversary, centennial and dedicatory exercises used upon various occasions. He was identified with the effort which resulted in the erection of the Charity hospital in Norristown, and served as chairman of the committee on building during its construction. These facts, from a number of others that might be presented, serve to show the public spirit of Mr. Jenkins. He has also shown an interest in educational matters and has served for a number of years as a school director. Since 1882 he has been a member of the Masonic fraternity, and is also connected with Norris Lodge No. 430, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, which he has represented in the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania since 1877. For twelve years he has been chairman of the committee of appeals on charges for the Grand Lodge of the State, and served as district deputy of this district for six years.

On December 30, 1875, Mr. Jenkins was wedded to Ella C. Slight, a daughter of Augustus Slight, of Quakertown, Bucks county, this State. To Mr. and Mrs. Jenkins have been born three daughters: Lelia, born July 28, 1877, who was recently graduated from the Norristown high school; Helen, born August 24, 1881; and Olive,

born February 24, 1887, both now attending the public schools of Norristown.

In his political affiliations Mr. Jenkins has always been an ardent Republican, and carrying the same energy into politics that characterizes his business and professional life, it was not long until he was recognized as one of the leaders of his party in Montgomery county. He was sent as a delegate from Pennsylvania to the national convention which nominated Blaine for the presidency in 1884, has been a delegate to a number of State conventions, and has presided over four congressional conventions in this (the Seventh) congressional district. For many years he has taken a lively interest in all county conventions of his party, and in 1894 was a candidate for the nomination for State senator from this senatorial district.

JOSEPH SLINGLUFF, who is now serving as justice of the peace and assessor in Norristown, is a son of Samuel and Mary (Harvey) Slingluff, and was born March 22, 1815, in Whitemarsh township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania. The Slingluffs are of direct German descent, the family being transplanted to America by John Slingluff (grandfather), who left the fatherland while yet a young man, and crossing the Atlantic settled in Montgomery county about the middle of the eighteenth century. He was a farmer by occupation, and was distinguished by all the sturdy virtues of his race. His death occurred at his home in Cheltenham township. He reared a family of several children, one of whom was Samuel Slingluff (father), who was born on the old homestead in that township, and in early manhood learned the trade of tailor, at which he worked for a number of years. In later life he turned his attention to agricultural pursuits and became quite prosperous as a farmer and stockman. Politically he was an old line Whig. He married Mary Harvey, of this county, and by that marriage had a family of seven children, only two of whom now survive: Mary, now in the ninetieth year of her age, and Joseph, the subject of this sketch. The deceased were: Hannah, Elizabeth, John, Charles and Catharine.

Joseph Slingluff was reared on the farm in Whitpain township, this county, and received his education in the subscription schools of his neighborhood. After working on the farm for some time he learned the trade of stonemason, and followed that occupation for six or eight years. At the end of that time he embarked in the general merchandise business at Norristown, which he continued successfully for a period of eight years, and subsequently engaged in the hotel business at Fremont, Schuylkill county, this State. Later he removed to Phœnixville, Chester county, where he conducted the hotel business for some time, and then returned to Montgomery, locating at Conshohocken. He removed to Norristown, where he has since resided. For twelve years Mr. Slingluff occupied the position of notary public in Norristown, and for twenty years was largely engaged in dealing in real estate. In 1892 he was appointed a justice of the peace to fill the vacancy, and was regularly elected to that office in 1893, the duties of which position he is still discharging with acceptability. Politically, Squire Slingluff is a staunch Republican. He has served as school director and was elected assessor in 1892, of which office he is the present incumbent.

On August 15, 1838, Mr. Slingluff was

married to Sarah Hinkle, a daughter of John and Mary Hinkle, of Whitpain township, this county. To them were born nine children, three sons and six daughters: Charles, now a resident of Norristown; Ella, married Daniel A. Reiff, connected with the treasury department at Washington, D. C.; Ida, wedded John Wood, jr., of Conshohocken; Laura, wife of John W. Harry, of Norristown; Mary E., deceased; Joseph and Sarah (twins), also deceased; John H., who was killed at the battle of the Wilderness, May 6, 1864, and Kate, deceased.

HIRAM CORSON, M. D., who for a period of sixty years enjoyed a large and lucrative practice in medicine in a wide district, whose centre was Plymouth Meeting, and who is known and revered as one of the broad minded and thoroughly progressive physicians of his day, is now, at the ripe age of eighty-five years, living retired amid the scenes of his early professional triumphs. His has been, certainly, a varied career, not always without its trials, but nevertheless uniformly brilliant, and one that made him respected and esteemed not only by the laity but also by his professional compatriots in this and other countries.

He is a descendant of the Huguenots, who sought relief from religious oppression by flight from their native France to South Carolina. One of the two vessels that set out with these pilgrims from France arrived at Staten Island, and on this bark came Cornelius Corson and Maritie, his wife, the original immigrant ancestors of the family. They, with several other families, came to Northampton township, Bucks county, Pennsylvania, where they bought land and soon became successful farmers. Benjamin Corson, a son of Cornelius, was of this party, and his son, Benjamin 2nd, married Maria Sedan. Their son, Benjamin 3rd, married Sarah Dungan, grand-daughter of Rev. Thomas Dungan, who was a son of William and Lady Weston Dungan. The Dungans were refugees from England on account of the persecution of the Baptists.

Joseph Corson, father of Dr. Hiram Corson, was a son of Benjamin and Sarah (Dungan) Corson. He married Hannah Dickinson, a daughter of Joseph Dickinson, and a descendant of the first Dickinson, of Pennsylvania, whose ancestry is traced back to Charles Dickinson, a merchant of London. The three sons of Charles Dickinson were followers of George Fox's teachings and they immigrated to Virginia. His son, John, came to Maryland, and his son, William, settled at Plymouth Meeting, Montgomery county. After reaching in the backward view Charles Dickinson, of London, we can trace his ancestry back to the seventeenth century and Dr. Corson's maternal ancestry to the eleventh century through the noble family of Dudley. Hannah Dickinson Corson, Dr. Corson's mother, was a daughter of Hannah Wright (wife of Joseph Dickinson), daughter of John Wright, a Friend, of Upper Gwynedd, in this county, who had come from Wales where Friends were not kindly regarded by church people.

Dr. Hiram Corson therefore traces his line of ancestry through three lines of reformers, viz.: Quakers, Baptists and Huguenots. He was born in Plymouth township October 10, 1810, and began school at the early age of six years in the Friends' school at the Plymouth Meeting house, and continued to attend Friends' school there for

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many years. When older he aided his father in the store and on the farm until he was eighteen years of age. Then he went to a Friends' select school in Philadelphia, after which, when nearly twenty years of age, he began the study of medicine with his cousin, Dr. Richard D. Corson, at New Hope, Bucks county. He graduated from the University of Pennsylvania after two years of close study, and at this date, 1895, is the only member of his large class of graduates that is living.

Dr. Corson began to practice his profession in the immediate vicinity of his early home, nearby Friends' Meeting house, and he soon enjoyed a large practice and in time succeeded to the practice of Dr. Joseph Leedom, who was far advanced in years. In 1833 Dr. Corson married Ann Jones Foulke, but as he loved her best under the old familiar name, "Nancy," he has always retained it. She was the eldest daughter of Edward and Tacy (Jones) Foulke. In the summer of 1833 Dr. Corson built a home not far from the Friends' Meeting house and here, for sixty years, he had a large practice, yielding him an abundant income for all the family needs. During the years from 1830 to 1861, when the slaveholders brought war upon the country, he was an uncompromising opponent of slavery, and in 1837 he, with a few friends, formed an anti-slavery society. This little band of abolitionists held many meetings to stir up the people against slavery, but for years they met most bitter opposition and it was often difficult to secure a place for meeting, and these meetings were often disturbed by the rowdy class, urged on secretly by those holding a high moral place in the community. Dr. Corson then just having begun to practice medicine was, because of his advocacy of the abolition movement, boycotted by the pro-slavery advocates, but regardless of that, he boldly held to his purpose, and during the many years that the strife went on made seventy public speeches on abolition and temperance. The boycott did not harm him except for a very short time, as he had aroused the people to think of the subject, and brought them one by one to stand by his side in advocacy of the unconditional abolition of slavery.

Dr. Corson retired from the active practice of medicine in 1888. Soon after he started in practice he inaugurated a great and at that time startling reform in the treatment of all febrile diseases, and above all in the treatment of measles and other eruptive diseases. Hot teas and hot drinks only were allowed then for these patients, and cold water was considered strangely fatal. Dr. Corson caused consternation among fond mothers and nurses by directing the plentiful use of cold water as a beverage in such cases. Even his colleagues in his profession, far and near, were amazed at this radical reform, but, as was soon learned, their disastrous prophesies came to naught. From that time forward, during sixty years, in which 3,041 children were born under his supervision, hundreds and hundreds of them when suffering from attacks of measles were treated with very little medicine, but were not only allowed to drink cold water to allay thirst, but it was urged upon them as the proper remedy to allay their fever. Not a single child was lost by death. Fortified and justified by his success from the very beginning in this reformed treatment in measles, he carried it into the treatment of all other affections where fever was present. The reform was soon caught up by others and the hot drinks have been discarded by progressive physicians in all febrile affections.

Dr. Corson soon became an acknowledged authority on the treatment of all fever affections and many papers were prepared and read by him, and have since found place in reference books and reports of medical meetings. More than sixty of these papers were prepared by Dr. Corson, and yet, great as has been his labor in his practice, he does not regard it as the work of his life. In his own opinion his great achievement was his championship of the female physician and his great success after years of hard struggle and bitter opposition. The Woman's Medical college, of Philadelphia, was opened for students in 1850. For ten years the college created little comment. Every two years a class was graduated, but when the eighth class received their diplomas, the male doctors seemed to awaken to the fact that their hitherto sacred domain had been invaded. They began an active opposition to the recognition of the female physician and carried the war into their city and county societies and even into the State and national associations. Resolutions were passed by the Philadelphia physicians and sent to the several county societies. Dr. Corson was corresponding secretary of the Montgomery county society and he laid the resolution before his colleagues, and through his influence the following substitute was adopted by them :

"Resolved, that it is with regret that we feel ourselves, after a full and free discussion, compelled to dissent from the action of the Philadelphia County Medical society, as we believe the time has fully come when women should not be excluded from the medical profession; but if properly educated and observant of the code of medical ethics, should receive the same treatment from the male members of the profession as is accorded to the male members thereof."

At this meeting held May 26, 1860, there were only nine members present, viz.: Doctors B. F. Poley, Wm. Corson, Hiram Corson, Louis (Corson) Read, Frank Vanartzdalen, Jonathan Comfort, Wm. P. Robinson, John Schrack and Milton Newberry. On this resolution the vote was seven in favor. The names are given because on the vote of the first seven hung an important issue. Dr. Corson was then delegated to lay this before the State Medical society at its next meeting. The resolution copied here was but one of several expressing the strongest opposition to this and any other action taken against women physicians. When Dr. Corson at the next meeting of the State society in Philadelphia, presented them, instant opposition was shown, and he was strongly rebuked even by some of his warmest friends. Some threatened him, some appealed to him not to bring into the society subjects likely to create bad feeling among the members—but all in vain. He stood bravely for the resolution. This was in June, 1860, and year after year, from that time until June 14, 1871, he maintained his position, when finally a resolution to rescind the resolution presented by the Philadelphia County Medical society, was finally adopted and women recognized as full and worthy members of the profession.

During these many years of strife, Dr. Corson was the target against which the opposition hurled its arrows of abuse. This work being done, harmony began to prevail, and in 1893 female physicians were admitted to the Philadelphia Medical society as well as to other county societies. Dr. Corson was appointed by Gov. Hartranft, trustee of the Lunatic hospital at Harrisburg, and was continued there, by reappointment by him and Gov. Hoyt, through a busy period of seven years. There he saw the great need of having educated women physicians to

take entire medical charge of the insane of their sex, and the great impropriety of having male physicians perform that duty. So, in June, 1877, he asked the State Medical society for the appointment of a committee of three persons to report on the propriety of having our female insane under the exclusive care of female doctors. This committee was appointed. As chairman, he made the report, quite an exhaustive one, which was read at Pittsburg the next year and gave great satisfaction, but was strenuously opposed by all the superintendents of the State hospitals, and during the next session of the legislature a "bill," drawn by Dr. Corson, was enacted into a law despite the most persistent opposition of the superintendents and their friends against Dr. Corson, whom they denounced in unmeasured terms. It so happened that the great hospital for the insane, at Norristown, was just ready to receive patients, and the thirteen trustees were a unit in organizing it as Dr. Corson suggested by dispensing with a superintendent and taking the management into their own hands, whereas in the organization under a superintendent, the trustees were utterly ignored, and regarded as a useless body. See now that great hospital, beyond any in the whole country, with its nearly 2,000 patients, at times, with female physicians to care for the female insane, and with imployment for them—a great necessity as Dr. Corson perceived in his walks through the wards in the hospitals at Harrisburg. And what else? Nearly a thousand female patients at one time in the hospital, and yet, all torturing restraints, so long used by superintendents, entirely abandoned and the patients governed by kindness and the soothing, consoling treatment of Dr. Alice Bennett.

From the very begining of the new movement until the present time the employment of female physicians in insane hospitals has been a wonderful success, and both in the management and in the results in the way of cured patients, it shows to have been the one great reform needed. To Dr. Corson is due honor for taking the initative and working constantly for this achievement. At present there are 40 women physicians employed in thirty-four hospitals in thirteen States. He was just entering on the seventieth year of his life when he saw the fulfillment of this work, and has just reason to be proud of his victory. But a few months had passed after the recognition of the female physician when the faculty of the Woman's college, togethgether with twelve eminent male and as many female physicians, gave a public reception to Dr. Corson at the Bellevue hotel, Philadelphia, and as the State Medical society was then in session in that city, the reception was a grand and especially enjoyable one to the large number who availed themselves of the opportunity to express their regards for the unselfish and valuable work done by him.

In addition to these many evidences of his efforts in their behalf, the following certificate was presented to Dr. Corson:

"The Faculty of the Women's college, of Pennsylvania, believing that the present useful and honorable position of women physicians is mainly due to the disinterested, persistent and energetic efforts of Dr. Hiram Corson, of Plymouth Meeting, desire to convey to Dr. Corson with mutual congratulations their hearty thanks and expressions of the highest esteem. Francis Emily White, Chairman of the committee."

"This report was unanimously adopted and the dean instructed to send a copy of the same to Dr. Corson. Respectfully,

RACHEL BODLEY,

Dean of the Woman's Medical College."

During the ten years prior to 1894, Dr. Corson wrote many articles for publication in the Philadelphia *Medical and Surgical Reporter*, denouncing the then fatal treatment of pneumonia, and was invited by the Philadelphia County Medical society to address them on that subject. He was too ill to do this, but a paper prepared by him was read by his grand-nephew, Dr. George W. Highly. Resolutions were passed by the society thanking Dr. Corson and commending his views.

Dr. Hiram Corson and Ann Jones Foulke had nine children, all of whom grew up. They were as follows: Edward Foulke, graduate of medicine, who entered the United States navy in 1859, died June 22, 1864, unmarried; Joseph, a graduate of medicine, Surgeon in United States army, married 1874 Ada, daughter of W. A. Carter, of Fort Bridge, Wyoming; Caroline, died 1865, unmarried; Tacy Foulke, wife of W. L. Cresson; Charles Follen, married 1876, Mary Lukens, and in 1889 Margaret Slemmer, died 1889; Susan Foulke, wife of Jawood Lukens, of Conshohocken; Bertha, wife of James Yocum, of Philadelphia; Frances Stockton, wife of Richard H. Day, of Philadelphia; Mary Adamson, unmarried.

HENRY M. TRACY, Esq., a resident of Conshohocken, and an active lawyer of southeastern Pennsylvania, is a son of James and Margaret (O'Brien) Tracy, and was born in Conshohocken, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, August 29, 1861. He received his education in the Conshohocken high school and Broad street academy of Philadelphia, from both of which educational institutions he graduated with good rank and standing. Leaving school he entered the law department of the University of Pennsylvania, from which he graduated in 1882. After graduation he was addmitted to practice in the courts of Philadelphia and Montgomery counties, and since then has made a specialty of civil and orphans court business. His special lines of practice has brought him constantly in contact with the industrial enterprises of southeastern Pennsylvania, in whose welfare he takes a deep interest. He has been active in the formation and promotion of many business enterprises in Conshohocken and the vicinity, and is a director in the following corporations: The Conshohocken Gas Light company, the Conshohocken Electric Light and Power company, the, Conshohocken Galvanizing and Tinning company, the Longmead Iron company, the Recorder Publishing company, the Norristown Title, Trust and Safe Deposit company. He is secretary and treasurer of the Conshohocken Gas company, and secretary of and solicitor for the Reliance, Guarantee, Fidelity, Conshohocken and Progress Building and Loan associations, of Conshohocken. Mr. Tracy is a member of the Philadelphia Lawyers club, and Montgomery County Bar association, and of the Merion Cricket club of Haverford college. He is a Democrat in politics, was solicitor for his borough for two years, and secretary of the Democratic county committee for two terms. Mr. Tracy is a man of wide observation and travel, and has made several voyages to the old world, visiting the most noted and important places in England, Ireland, France, Italy, Spain, Germany, Switzerland, Belgium and Morocco. He is capable and energetic and has been successful in his profession.

James Tracy, the father of the subject of this sketch, is of Irish descent, and has

Henry Longfellow

always been a man of prominence and influence in the communities in which he has resided. He was born at Port Carbon, in Schuylkill county, in 1832, but reared in Plymouth township, this county, where he received a good English education in the common schools. After attaining his majority, he remained with his father for a number of years and assisted in the management of the farms and a large iron ore mine. In these agricultural and mining pursuits he acquired valuable experience and a splendid business education, and in later years when he resolved upon embarking in his present large and profitable flour, feed and coal enterprises, he was fully qualified to to win the ample success and patronage which he enjoys to-day. Mr. Tracy is one of the most substantial and reliable business men of his borough. He is a director of the First National bank and the Water company of Conshohocken, also of the Conshohocken Woolen Mills company, and the Union Mutual Fire and Storm Insurance company. Reliable, accurate, prompt and energetic he gives force and direction to whatever enterprise he undertakes. He has served as burgess and member of town council of Conshohocken, but beyond holding that office has never sought for nor accepted public place or position, although offered such frequently.

HON. HENRY LONGAKER was born February 4, 1792, at Parker Ford, Chester county, Pennsylvania, and died November 2, 1872. He was a son of Jacob and Catharine Longaker, he and his twin brother Isaac being the seventh by birth in a family of eleven children. His mother was a daughter of John Detwiler, of the townships of Skippack and Perkiomen. She was the tenth child of a family of thirteen: three sons, Abraham, Jacob, and John; and nine daughters, Susanna, wife of Henry Kolb; Barbara, of Isaac Cassel; Mary, of John Landes; Elizabeth, of Nicholas Haldterman; Hester, of Henry Hunsicker; Sarah, of John Moyer; Catharine, of Jacob Longaker; Hannah, of Jacob Benner; Magdalena, of Abraham Gotwals; Salome, of John Connor. All these had children except Susanna Kolb, and their descendants at this time are numerous, many of whom are living in Montgomery and adjoining counties. The father of Henry removed from Chester county about 1797 to his farm on the Schuylkill river near Pawling's Bridge, where he died about December, 1806. His mother survived his father, and at the time of his father's death he could speak the English and German languages, although the latter was the usual speech of the family. Growing up, and remaining in a neighborhood where the English was generally spoken, he lost his knowledge of the German, but regained it while he was sheriff and associate judge by intercourse with the people living in the German districts of the county. His education was limited to a few months during each year and to such branches as were then taught in the local schools of that neighborhood. His mother died about March, 1817. He was a carpenter by trade, and his twin brother, Isaac, a shoemaker. He was a soldier in the service of the United States in the War of 1812, a private in the company of which John Hall was captain, in the 65th regiment, commanded by Colonel John L. Pearson, and in the brigade commanded by Brigadier General Samuel Smith. He entered the service under date of October

18, 1814. (See Vol. XII, Penna. Archives, Second Series, page 171).

He was married to Catharine Brower, the tenth child of Henry and Barbara Brower, in January, 1816. In August, 1817, he purchased from H. Saylor two tracts of land containing seventy-nine acres, located in Upper Providence township, about one-half mile from the Perkiomen Bridge, fronting on a road leading from the turnpike to Phoenixville, and lying partly on the Perkiomen Creek. Here he and his wife commenced farming. In 1821 this farm was sold to John Burke, and soon thereafter he purchased a farm of about ninety acres in Lower Providence township, lying along the Skippack creek, about one-half mile from its confluence with the Perkiomen creek, and near a point called "The Level," on the road leading from Evansburg to Tyson's Mill. Here the farming was continued and the rearing and education of his children as well, until the spring of 1841, when he purchased and removed to the property known as The Bridge, on the Perkiomen and Reading turnpike in Upper Providence township. At this place his death occurred in 1872. His wife died in December, 1860, and soon thereafter he made his home with his youngest son. In 1834 he purchased in Norriton township, adjacent to the borough of Norristown, a farm of ninety-eight acres from John Markley, and in the following April sold it to Elijah Lewis, with the exception of ten acres; and from the date of that sale, in real estate transactions this property has been known generally as the Lewis farm. By the extension of the boundaries of the borough it became part of the municipal corporation, and the greater part of it is now held in town lots whereon many handsome buildings on DeKalb and Powell streets have been erected. He also purchased from John Markley, about the time of the purchase of this farm, several town lots on Penn street, then called Court House alley.

Before his marriage he and his brother Isaac, as tenants in common, purchased from Daniel Kolb in 1814 a farm of 106½ acres near Shannonville, adjoining lands of Peter Skeen, Joseph Crawford and others, and in the same year sold 80¾ acres of it to William Logan. Isaac married Catharine Diehl, of Plymouth township, and Henry lived with them for awhile. The twin brothers from infancy to manhood were inseparable as companions and playmates, and in their first purchase of real estate they were jointly interested. Their resemblance was so exact that their father could not tell one from the other, and their mother was the only one of the family who could distinguish them. They were dressed alike, alike in growth, in manner and tastes, and when one committed an offience and chastisement was apprehended, he would run quickly to the other, and the offender's identity would be lost; their father not knowing which to correct would sometimes punish both, and in addressing either one of them he would usually say Henry or Isaac. In their manhood, and while they lived together, their neighbors would often ask Isaac about carpenter work and Henry about the mending and making of boots and shoes. It is related that Isaac's wife could not distinguish them except by a slight difference in their walk. Francis Longaker, the second son of Isaac, bears a stronger resemblance to his Uncle Henry than does any of Henry's children bear to their own father, and Daniel Longaker, the first son of Isaac, and A. Brower Longaker, the seventh child of Henry, resembled each

other more strongly than they did any one of their own brothers. A. Brower resembles his father in features more nearly than does ony of the other children.

In 1825 Henry Longaker was appointed and commissioned by Governor Andrew Shultz, during good behavior, justice of the peace for district No. 2, composed of the townships of Lower and Upper Providence, Limerick and Skippack, and Perkiomen. In October, 1831, he was elected sheriff and commissioned for a term of three years. In 1836 he was elected a member of the House of Representatives of the commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and re-elected in 1837. In 1851 he was elected one of the associate judges and commissioned for a term of five years, and was re-elected in 1855 and commissioned for another term of five years. In 1834 and 1835 he was colonel of the militia. Besides these public offices he was prominent and active in all matters that concerned the general welfare of the people of his neighborhood, and his opinion was often sought and much respected as well as generally accepted as final. He was an incorporator of the Perkiomen and Sumneytown Turnpike company, whose road was constructed in 1846, and later one of the originators of the Perkiomen Railroad company, the construction of which was commenced in 1867 and completed in 1876. For many years he was a member of the board of directors of each corporation.

His official duties were discharged with the utmost integrity; possessed of great common sense, ready to perceive motives and acts, reading character as if it were by intuition, having an excellent judgment as regards facts as well as law, he rarely erred, and generally arrived at correct equitable and legal conclusions.

As a justice of the peace he discountenanced hasty action in minor offences, where passion seemed to be the ruling motive rather than a subserving of the public good. He would often send away the complainant without granting a warrant, saying that "he would consider the law, and if in the meantime you do not change your mind and you come again, I will advise you what it will be best to do." In most instances the case thus ended. In civil actions he would advise the would-be suitor that an amicable settlement of the claim, or of accounts, was usually better than a compulsory suit, and thus he prevented many frivolous prosecutions and actions from occurring amongst his neighbors.

As a legislator he was apt, active and influential. Although not a learned and polished speaker, he could present his views briefly, freely and intelligently on all occasions which required him so to do. Although in some parts of the county many of his constituents were opposed to a system of public schools, both in and out of the legislature, he was a firm, active and influential supporter of the schools, and he voted for the act of 1837, whereby the system was enlarged and its privileges extended. On his return home he co-operated with his neighbors in building the school house in 1837 at a point known as "The Level." At this school his eldest children received their principal education and his youngest children were taught their earliest lessons.

As an associate judge he was industrious and attentive, listening patiently to the argument of counsel involving questions of fact blended with the legal principles applicable, and was often consulted by the presiding law judge as to the views which he entertained, and especially when matters had been discussed which were largely in the discretionary power of the court. Illus-

trative of his habit in going to correct conclusions as regards questions involving the facts and law, may be produced the suit of Buckman, as complainant, against Phipps, et al., as defendants, in equity in the common pleas of Montgomery county, No. 3, August term, A. D., 1856, and revised by the supreme court, and reported in 30 Pennsylvania, page 401. The complainant and defendant had entered into a written contract for the exchange of certain lands and tenements, one of which was a grist and flouring mill; there had been part performance by executing deeds for most of the tenements involved. The bill was for full performance, and the defendants resisted the prayer of the bill upon the allegation that fraudulent representations as to the condition of the machinery and its capacity of production had been made. Upon this issue much testimony was taken, and the contention of the complainants was that it was insufficient to establish a fraud, and according to the law applicable to the case, the defendants had failed to interpose a good defence. The presiding law judge held that the law and facts were with the defendants, but Judges Longaker and McGlathery, the lay associates, decided that the defense both in fact and law had failed to establish fraud by misrepresentation, and a decree was accordingly entered by them as a majority of the court, that the complainant have judgment for specific performance, and that the defendants be made to account for profits. The president judge in announcing the decision of the associate judges said, "This case has received as attentive consideration as it was in my power to bestow upon it, and I have now to announce the result of our deliberations upon it. My associates are of the opinion that the contract set forth in the complainant's bill ought to be enforced and specific performance thereof be decreed, and other relief granted according to the prayer of the bill. My own opinion is that the testimony leaves the equity of the bill involved in so much doubt, that without pronouncing upon it, one way or the other, I would leave the parties respectively to their remedies at law, which for aught I can perceive, will afford adequate redress. The opinion of the majority of the court being otherwise, must prevail." The decree was then ordered to be entered to which the president judge filed his dissent.

An appeal was taken to the supreme court, and the decree ordered by the associates, and entered as the judgment of the court, was affirmed. This case is reproduced, somewhat, *in extenso*, because of an erroneous opinion often entertained, that the associate judges, unlearned in the law, could not exercise power co-extensive with the law judge when it required at least the presence of one of them to sit with the law judge to constitute a quorum of the court, and when the question to be decided required a majority of the court to concur. Not only in this case, but on all occasions the law judge regarded this right of his associates with proper deference, and invited them to exercise it without apprehending any friction upon his part.

A few years later, another notable case is presented in the Orphan's court in the estate of Doctor James Anderson. Mary W. Anderson, the widow of the decedent, about one year after the death of her husband, was cited to determine "whether or not" she would elect to take under the provisions of the will, or her dower according to the intestate laws. In answer to the citation she appeared in open court and declined and refused to accept the bequests

and devise of the will and elected to take her dower according to the statutory law.

Against her election to take dower, a protest was filed by the guardian of some of the minor children, alleging that she had previously in fact and in law, elected to take the devise and bequest under the will. To determine this contention, the question was referred to an auditor who decided that by acts *in pais*, but not by express agreement, she must be held to have elected to take under the will. Exceptions were filed to this report, and the president judge in an elaborate opinion, covering almost eleven pages of the reported case, affirmed the auditor's finding. Associate Judge Longaker dissented from this opinion, and the other associate agreed with the president judge. On appeal taken and heard in the supreme court, the case was reversed, thus showing that Judge Longaker had formed a correct opinion as to the law and the facts of the case.

Politically a Democrat, he was an influential leader, and generally popular with his party. He was very companionable, largely acquainted in every portion of the county, abounding in general information and in reminiscences; and apt in anedotes, he often became the central figure, and always was a welcome companion amongst his acquaintances.

His was more than an ordinary personality and commanded attention in every sphere in which he moved. In his physical structure he was shapely and well formed; in height, about five feet ten inches; in weight, about one hundred and eighty pounds; slightly corpulent, but very muscular, strong and wiry, with great vitality and endurance typical of longevity; large chest and square shoulders; well poised head, a little larger than medium; high forehead; very prominent and strongly marked Roman nose, with bridge; mild blue eyes; well cut mouth with firmly set thin lips; a complacent, good natured countenance; slightly blonde complexion; chestnut brown hair, slightly curling, with top of the head bald; face always smoothly shaven; sanguine nervous temperament; possessed of great self control, self reliant, readily adapting himself to circumstances; enjoying life without ostentation, resignedly accepting misfortune or even adversity not brooding over it, but bearing it heroically with a determined effort to regain in the future that which had been lost to the present; always charitable, and in his dealings often doing better to his neighbor than he did to himself; considerate of the comforts of all who came under his roof; dispensing liberally of his substance to relieve the distress of others; the way-farer or even the tramp (who were then few), who asked for food never went from his door hungry. Of quiet domestic habits, he lavishly provided for his family; a kind and loving husband, a fond and indulgent father, he was loved and respected by his children for whose welfare he manifested the greatest anxiety and for whose education, start in business or professional life he gave timely and financial aid.

In private transactions he regarded "his word as good as his bond," and his rule was inflexible to meet all appointments and engagements with strict punctuality or to give timely notice and reasons for his inability to do so. His religious sentiments were those of his forefathers as taught and promulgated by the Mennonites, and the Dunkards burial ground of the Green Meeting near Port Providence, was selected as the place of burial of himself, his wife and the unmarried children who died before him, be-

cause of his wife's wishes to be buried where several of sisters, who held to the faith of the Dunkards, are interred.

FRANCIS S. WILSON, M. D., a very successful physician, of Janettown, is a son of Charles and Mary (Bickham) Wilson, and was born in the city of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, January 19, 1844. The Wilsons are of Scotch-Irish descent, and have been residents for several generations in the north of Ireland and around the city of Belfast, the region from which Francis Wilson, the paternal grandfather of Dr. Wilson, came to Abingtown township, this county. Francis Wilson was a Presbyterian, and while in Ireland married Miss Hart, by whom he had eight children: Jane, Eliza, Margaret, John, Samuel, Francis, Jr., Captain Charles and Henry. Captain Charles Wilson was a carpenter and builder in Philadelphia, which latter place he left to remove to Cairo, Illinois, where he now resides. He served as a soldier and was captain of the old Monroe guards, of Philadelphia, which helped to put down the Philadelphia riots of 1844. He wedded Mary Bickham, a daughter of George Bickham. They reared a family of six children: Charles L., who commanded Company D, Third New Jersey infantry, was wounded three times and passed several months as a prisoner in Libby prison; George W., adjutant of the Sixty-first Pennsylvania volunteers, was killed at the battle of Spottsylvania court-house; Dr. Francis S., Mary E., Jackson and Henry. Jackson died at Millersville State normal school at the age of seventeen; Mary E. and Henry died in infancy.

Dr. F. S. Wilson was taken at six years of age from Philadelphia to Swedesboro, N. J., and afterwards was a resident successively of Chestnut Hill and Horsham township, in which he attended the common schools. He was then a student at Tennent select school at Hartville, Bucks county, and West Jersey academy, Bridgeton, New Jersey, and afterwards taught school for two years in Upper Dublin township. At the end of that time he commenced the study of medicine with Dr. A. J. Hines, of Doylestown, Pennsylvania, and after reading the required length of time entered Jefferson Medical college, from which he was graduated in the class of 1870. After graduation he came to Jarrettown and succeeded his former preceptor in the latter's practice there. Dr. Wilson has remained ever since, and to-day has a large and remunerative practice.

On February 28, 1872, Dr. Wilson married Isabella F. Kessler, who died May 21, 1875, aged thirty years, and left two children, Stella J. and Mary G. After his wife's death, Dr. Wilson on February 19, 1879, wedded Hannah E. Jones, a daughter of Dr. Joshua Y. Jones, of Three Tuns, who served as lazaretto physician under Governor Shunk, and afterwards was a member of the State senate from Montgomery county. In politics Dr. Wilson has always been a Democrat. He has served as school director for two terms and is a member of Fort Washington Lodge, No. 308, Free and Accepted Masons. He was appointed and served under Governor Pattison's first administration as lazeretto physician of Philadelphia. Dr. Wilson has attained rank and high standing in his profession. He is ex-president of the Montgomery county medical society and a member of the Pennsylvania State Medical society, which latter he represented at the medical assembly at New

Orleans in 1886. He is also a member of the American Medical association. During the year 1894 he was appointed a delegate by the Montgomery County Medical association to the International Medical congress which met in Washington, D. C.

JOSEPH HENRY BRANDT, founder and first editor and proprietor of the *Norristown Review*, is a son of Joseph R. and Samaria (Schaffer) Brandt, and was born January 27, 1863, in Limerick township, this county. He received a rudimentary education in the public schools of Limerick township, and at the age of sixteen years entered the office of D. F. Graham, at Pottstown, to learn the printer's trade. During his apprenticeship at the trade he worked at different times on the following publications: The Pottstown *Daily Ledger*, Pottstown *Daily News* and the *Norristown National Defender*. As a journeyman he was one of the first compositors on the Norristown *Daily Times*, and later was general news editor of the Norristown *Daily Register*. In 1883, having made sufficient advancement in the art of printing and obtained a good knowledge of the business phase of the same, he embarked in the job printing business on his own account. Soon afterward he began the publication of the *Advertiser* and in 1887 issued the first edition of the *Review*, the publication of which he has continued to the present time; since 1890 in partnership with his brother, Harvey S. Brandt. The paper is independent in matters political and is devoted to the chronicling of local and general news and is an organ of potential influence in the community. In connection with the publication of the *Review*, they do a large business in the job printing line and are the printers of the *Montgomery County Prohibitionist*, the organ of the Prohibition party in the county, and *Boehm's Review*, the church paper of Boehm's Reformed church of Blue Bell, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania. Since 1891 they have done a thriving trade as bicycle dealers. Mr. Brandt is a Democrat politically and was the founder of the Jefferson club, the leading Democratic club of the county, founded in 1882. He became its first president and officiated in that capacity for three successive terms. Joseph Rawn Brandt, the father, died in 1872, at the age of forty-two years. Mrs. Samaria (Schaffer) Brandt, the mother, is still living, at the age of sixty-three years. Religiously he is a member of the Reformed church and fraternally a past officer of the Knights of the Golden Eagle. On June 27, 1894, he married Mrs. Lola M. Brooke, a daughter of Rev. A. J. Coffman, a minister of the Methodist Episcopal church of Virginia, and an ardent advocate of anti-slavery.

JOHN B. YOST, of Green Lane, is a member of the well known firm of Yost Brothers, carriage builders. He is also one of the foremost public spirited men of the locality and is at present serving his fellow citizens as a member of town council. Though a Democrat in party affiliation, Mr. Yost was not elected solely on account of his adherence to the principles of the Democracy, but because he was recognized as a man who had the ability and the independence to serve them well. He is still a young man, having been born in Frederick township on September 27, 1863. He is a Pennsylvania German by birth and

ancestry, being a son of Henry H. and Henrietta (Bucher) Yost. His paternal grandfather, John Yost, was a well-to-do farmer in Frederick township, where he resided all his life. He was a staunch Democrat and a man of strong influence in his locality. He was married to Sallie Hallowbush, and they had four children: Henry H., Sophia, Maria S—— and one who died young.

Henry H. Yost, father of the subject of this sketch, was born in Frederick township. He was a farmer and followed that business exclusively and to good profit. Like his father he too was a Democrat and took great interest in local politics. The family attend the Reformed church, of which all are members. He married Henrietta Bucher, and their union was blessed by eight children: Mary, Franklin, Lizzie, Jonas, Amanda, Hinby, John B., Henry and Savilla. The parents of this interesting family are still living.

John B. Yost learned the trade of carriage building with J. K. Weldman, at Green Lane, and followed it as a journeyman until 1886, when he engaged in the business on his own account. He had as his partner his brother, Henry B. Yost, and the firm still continues. Their business is very prosperous and they turn out many fine carriages and wagons in the course of a year. They employ five men besides themselves, and are kept busy all the time. Mr. Yost is a Democrat and a member of council. He has been in the latter body four years. He is an earnest, active politician and one of the leaders of the party in his district. Mr. Yost belongs to but one secret organization and that the Knights of the Golden Eagle. He was married on the 21st day of January, 1888, to Sevilla, daughter of Henry Sweisford, a well known farmer of Frederick township. This marriage has resulted in a family of three children: Sallie Lowrey, who died in infancy, Eva May and Harry Elmer.

LEWIS H. DAVIS, farmer, of King-of-Prussia, is a son of Joseph W. and Ruthanna (Hansell) Davis, and was born near Gulf Mills, in Lower Merion township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, November 25, 1838. Joseph W. Davis was a son of Mishael Davis, a Whig and stonemason, who resided in Montgomery county. Joseph W. Davis, who was born March 7, 1807, resided successively in Montgomery, Delaware, and Chester counties. He received an ordinary education, learned the trade of cabinet-maker, but followed farming during the greater part of his life. He was a Whig politically, and a member and deacon of Gulf Christian church; and died October 28, 1865, aged fifty-eight years. In 1835 Mr. Davis wedded Ruthanna Hansell, whose father, Isaac Hansell, was a resident of Delaware county, Pennsylvania. They have three children: Lorenzo F., Lewis H., and Rebecca J., wife of William H. Davis.

Lewis H. Davis was reared in Lower and Upper Merion townships and Delaware county, and after attending the common schools came to Bridgeport, where he spent three years in learning the trade of carpenter, which he did not follow. After completing his apprenticeship he returned to Lower Merion township, where he was engaged in farming for his father from 1861 to 1867. In the last named year he went to Roxborough, where he farmed Charles Magargee's land for five years, and then rented a farm in Lower Merion township which he tilled for five years. At the

end of that time he removed to the neighborhood of King-of-Prussia, and after tilling a farm there for thirteen years, came in 1890, to his present farm in Upper Merion township.

On November 22, 1866, Mr. Davis married Elizabeth R. Dull, a daughter of Henry Dull. Mr. and Mrs. Davis have five children, four sons and one daughter: Charles J., Wallace H., Hattie A., Marvin R., and Howard M.

Lewis H. Davis is a Republican in politics, and a member of Bridgeport Baptist church. He is also a member of Pacific Lodge No. 82, Ancient Order of United Workmen, and Merion Grange No. 112, Patrons of Husbandry. He has been assessor of Upper Merion township for fifteen years.

PERCIVAL K. GABLE, proprietor of the Rambo House, Norristown, is one of the most prominent hotel men in the county. He was born in Skippackville, February 27, 1860, and comes from a long line of German-American ancestors, all of whom were famous as hotel men in their day. He is a son of Jesse and Mary (Kemmerer) Gable, both of whom are natives of Montgomery county. His ancestors on his father's side came from Rhenish Bavaria in 1732 and fixed their home in Montgomery county and immediately engaged in the hotel business and mercantile pursuits. They were of a very industrious nature, as Germans generally are, and being frugal, they prospered. Mr. Gable has in his possession at present a license that was granted to his grandfather, John Philip Gable, and bears the date of September 24, 1788, which was just three years after Montgomery was incorporated as a county. The Gable family has been identified with the hotel business for one hundred and eight years in this one county. Jesse Gable, father of Percival, was born in Upper Salford township, and was a hotel-keeper all his life, so it is only natural to believe that his son is by instinct and nature a hotel man, and that no doubt in a large measure accounts for his success since he has been in charge of the Rambo house. It is often said that men must be born to certain professions, and certainly this can be true of no one business more than that of hotel-keeping; and the subject of this sketch is certainly born to the occupation. His grandfather died in 1834, and his father succeeded to the hotel business in Skippack and continued in it up to the time of his death in September, 1874, at which time he was proprietor of the Farmer's hotel in Norristown.

Percival K. Gable commenced his career as a hotel-keeper at Skippackville at the age of eighteen years, being proprietor of the Valley house for three years. He then came to Norristown and was owner and proprietor of the Hartranft house in 1886, and remained there two years. He left Norristown at the expiration and took the Hotel Appledare, Atlantic City, for one season, going to Lansdale then and taking charge of the Central house. Two years later he again made a change, this time going to Quakertown, where he was proprietor of the Red Lion hotel for five years. On May 13, 1895, he returned to Norristown as proprietor of the Rambo house, which he conducts as a first-class hostelry. In all of his ventures Mr. Gable has been very successful, and since he has been in charge of the Rambo house he has made some very important improvements and changes and is making it one of the best

hotels in the county. The Rambo house is a fine four-story building with the offices on the lower floor. It contains sixty-four rooms, nicely furnished, and has the largest dining-room in the county.

Mr. Gable is a Democrat and has always been very prominent in politics. While residing at Quakertown he was elected to the borough council and was made president of that body. In 1887 he was chosen a delegate to the Democratic State convention from Montgomery county, and in 1893 was a delegate to the State convention from Bucks county. While he was president of the Quakertown council he was instrumental in introducing street electric lighting, besides numerous other improvements. He is a very prominent supporter of fraternal societies, and is a member of Warren Lodge No. 310, F. and A. M. of Trappe ; Chapter No. 190, Royal Arch Masons, of Norristown ; and Hutchinson Commandery No. 132, Knights Templar, of Norristown. He is also a member of Lansdale Lodge No. 977, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, of Lansdale ; Milford Castle No. 165, Knights of the Golden Eagle, of Trumbauersville, Bucks county ; and Camp No. 596, Patriotic Order Sons of America, of Trumbauersville.

On May 1st, 1880 Mr. Gable and M. Levina, daughter of John and Levina Kohl, of Norristown, were joined in wedlock. They had one child, who died in infancy. Mrs. Gable died on the 16th of April, 1882. On April 23, 1885, Mr. Gable married again, his second wife being Ella J., daughter of Prof. Henry D. Kulp, of Skippackville. This union has been blessed with three children: Rosa L., E. Irene, and Mary. The family are members of the Reformed church, and are highly respected in the community in which they live.

GEORGE W. RIGHTER, one of Upper Merion township's successful farmers, is a son of John and Elizabeth (Legeaux) Righter. John Righter was a son of Anthony Righter, a millwright by trade and a resident of Spring Mill. John Righter was a farmer and limeburner, and had lime quarries near Spring Mill, which he operated with commendable success. He was a man of importance in his community, and in early life supported the Democratic party which he afterwards left to become a Republican. He was a member of the Society of Friends, and died in 1870. Mr. Righter married Elizabeth Legeaux, a daughter of Peter Legeaux, a Frenchman. The family consisted of eight children, seven sons and one daughter: Peter, Anthony, Joseph, John, jr., Charles, Lucressa, George W., and Lindley. Of these children three are dead.

George W. Righter was reared at Spring Mill, where he resided until he was twenty-eight years of age. He attended the early common schools of his township, and after taking a course at Tremount seminary at Norristown, under the Rev. Samuel Aaron, he engaged in teaching which he followed for five years. He then abandoned that profession and embarked in agricultural pursuits which has claimed his time and attention principally ever since. The farm he first bought he sold in 1863 to purchase his present farm, which lies one-half mile from Merion station, P. &. R. R., convenient to school, church, store and market. Some years ago Mr. Righter became a member of the Independent Ordor of Odd Fellows, and the Patrons of Husbandry. In politics he has stood for some years as an Independent, men and measures being everything, and nominees and party figuring very slightly with him. Believing in the greatest good to the greatest number, and in an economi-

cal administration of local and public affairs he votes for those whom he thinks will work most and best in those directions.

In 1859, George W. Righter was united in marriage with Caroline Hart, a daughter of John Hart, a resident of Plymouth. To their union have been born four children: Harry S., Carrie E., George W. and Mary Romania, who all passed away in childhood.

HON. JOSEPH A. SHOEMAKER, ex-member of the Pennsylvania State legislature and a prominent business man and politician of Montgomery county, has since 1885, been living a retired life on a small farm of eleven acres within the corporate limits of the borough of Jenkintown, being one of the most progressive and highly respected citizens of that town. He may truly be said to be of strictly American ancestry, for the families from which he is descended were of the Society of Friends, and his paternal ancestors came to Pennsylvania with William Penn, in 1682. They settled on a farm in Horsham township, this county. His grandfather was Joseph Shoemaker, who became a prosperous farmer in Gwynedd township. His marriage with Tacy Ambler, who was of Welsh descent, resulted in a family of seven children: Ezekiel, John, Joseph, Jessie, Ann, Ellen and Hannah. John Shoemaker, father of our subject, was born in Gwynedd township, in 1790, learned the trade of harness maker, and followed that business all his life in Jenkintown. His union with Elizabeth, daughter of Joseph and Mary Logan, of Abington township, was blessed by the following children: Hannah, wife of John Jones; Maria, married William Steel, now deceased; Jane, deceased, who was the wife of George Logan; Martha; Joseph A. our subject; Elizabeth and John deceased. Mr. Shoemaker retired from business and removed to Horsham township, where he died in 1863.

Hon. Joseph A. Shoemaker, our subject, was born at Gwynedd on the old homestead on May 13, 1826. Being a birthright member of the Society of Friends, he received his education in the Friends school of his native township, and remained there until he was thirteen years old, when he went to Philadelphia county. At the age of sixteen he was apprenticed to learn the trade of blacksmith at Bridesburg, Philadelphia, and afterwards at Upper Dublin. At the expiration of four years he went to Broad Axe, where he remained until he was twenty-two years old, and then started for the west. He worked at his trade in Illinois for awhile and then returned to the east and became engaged in buying and selling horses, and for a year was the tenant of a farm in Horsham township. For three years after this he was engaged at work in a sawmill in this township, and in 1853 he returned to Jenkintown, where, with his brother-in-law, George Logan, as a partner, he embarked in the butchering business. In this business he prospered and retired in 1885, contenting himself with looking after his small farm at his residence and in looking after his investments and other enterprises.

Mr. Shoemaker has been a very active business man all his life, and is at present a director in the Jenkintown National bank; treasurer of the Philadelphia Droveyard; director of the Masonic Hall building association, and president of the Cedar Hill Cemetery company of Frankford. On January 1, 1857, Mr. Shoemaker was married to Esther Ann, daughter of William Harper, of Abington, and their union was blessed with five children: Clara F., wife of Dr.

Henry Waas; William H., Harry, who died in infancy; Lizzie, and Jennie, wife of Harry C. Millar. The family are nearly all consistent members of the Friends Society and attend Abington meeting.

Politically Mr. Shoemaker is a very active Republican. He was a member of the town council and for several terms filled the president's chair with credit. He has been assistant assessor and assessor of the borough, and has served as an election officer. In party work he was always very prominent, and has often been a delegate to county and State conventions. In 1887 he was elected a member of the State legislature by a handsome majority and served two successive terms with honor to himself and credit to his constituency. In the halls of legislation he became a prominent figure. During the session of 1887 he was a member of the committee that was instrumental in printing 19,000 copies of that magnificent work, *Birds of Pennsylvania*. He was in 1889 chairman of the Geological Survey committee and a member of the printing committee. He was also on the corporation committee, the committee on congressional appointment, bank and banking, and the committee to compare bills.

Socially Mr. Shoemaker is very popular. Fraternally he is also prominent. He is a member of Free Masons, Odd Fellows, Knights of Golden Eagle and Junior Order American Mechanics.

J. HORACE LANDIS, A. M., the efficient principal of the Conshohocken public schools, is a son of John and Anna (Hunsicker) Landis, and was born at Grate's Ford, near Collegeville, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, October 20, 1854. The Landis family traces its trans-Atlantic ancestry back to Holland, but Abram Landis (grandfather) was born in Chester county in 1765 and came to Upper Providence township, where he purchased a large farm and where he died in 1830. He was a Whig and a member of the Reformed church, and wedded Mary Beitler, by whom he had four children: Abraham, John, Jacob and Hannah, wife of Daniel Longaker.

John Landis (father) was born in the year 1813 in Upper Providence township, and after receiving a common English education learned the trade of plasterer, which he followed for several years at Trappe, Norristown, and other places in the county. He afterwards quit his trade to engage in farming at Grater's Ford, where he now owns a good farm of 140 acres. During the last few years Mr. Landis has employed his time principally in the management and supervision of his farm and his huckstering teams, which he still runs. He is a constant reader and well informed on all the current issues of the day. He is a radical Republican and an active member of Trinity Reformed church at Collegeville, and in past years was one of the most untiring workers in the interest of his party and church.

He married Miss Anna Hunsicker, who was born in 1817, and is a daughter of Abraham and Anna Hunsicker, the latter of which is now in her ninety-sixth year, and hale and hearty. To Mr. and Mrs. Landis were born six sons and seven daughters: Elizabeth Bechtel (deceased), Mary Markley, Anna (deceased), Hattie, Hannah Hunsicker (deceased), Abraham, Katie Harley, Benjamin, J .Horace (subject), Henry, Josephine, Fritz, A. Lincoln and Elias, who died in infancy.

A. F. Rinnich

J. Horace Landis was reared on the farm and received his elementary education in the public schools of Perkiomen township. He then attended Ursinus college and then entered the Millersville State Normal school, from which he was graduated in the elementary course in 1877. In a short time afterwards he took the post graduate course in the sciences at the last named educational institution, and then entered the University of Pennsylvania. In 1895 Ursinus college conferred upon him the degree of A. M. While attending college he employed his vacations in teaching in the public schools. He served as principal of the Mauch Chunk public schools, of Carbon county, and of the Schwenkville and Lansdale schools. In 1892 he was elected principal of the Conshohocken schools, and was re-elected in 1893, 1894 and 1895. He now has under his charge sixteen schools and nineteen teachers.

On Christmas, 1895, Professor Landis was united in marriage with Lizzie K. Kratz, a daughter of Michael Kratz, a business man of Green Lane. Their union has been blessed with one child, Vesta K.

In politics Professor Landis is a Republican. He is a member of Trinity Reformed church. Since assuming charge of the Conshohocken schools his policy has been to widen out the course of study and secure the best of scoool buildings and furniture. His efforts have been appreciated in both directions. He introduced vocal music and manual training in the schools, and $2,500 has been spent on improving the school buildings and for the purchase of modern improved furniture. Professor Landis has widened the course of study and raised the standard of the schools, and has given reputation to Conshohocken in its educational work.

DAVID F. REINERT, a prominent real estate dealer and business man of Pottstown, was born October 12, 1833, in Exeter township, Berks county, Pennsylvania. He is a son of Jonas and Hannah (Feather) Reinert, both natives of Berks county and both descended from old German stock. Jonas Reinert was a tanner by trade, a Democrat in politics and a Lutheran in religious belief. He served as supervisor of his township and took an active part in all public matters. His death occurred June 27, 1883, and his wife survived him only about two months, dying September 19, 1883. Their ages were respectively seventy-nine and eighty-one years. They were buried at the Amityville cemetery, in Berks county.

David F. Reinert received his elementary instruction in the public schools, and then entered Prof. Hunsicker's select school at Collegeville, Montgomery county, where he remained three years. After completing his studies, Mr. Reinert began teaching, and devoted himself to that laudable occupation for a quarter of a century. He was successful beyond the usual measure, and won repute as an expert in the school-room. He taught in various parts of Berks and Montgomery counties and also in the city of Philadelphia. In 1873 Mr. Reinert engaged in the real estate and insurance business at Pottstown, and has successfully conducted that enterprise to the present time. In 1872 he was elected justice of the peace and has served continuously ever since, having been elected to that office five times in succession.

In politics 'Squire Reinert is a Democrat, but has never had any political ambition. He served as city engineer of Pottstown for twelve years, is a director of the Mutual Fire Insurance company of Reading, and

has also served as director in other insurance companies. He is regarded as a fine business man, has been successful in his various enterprises and stands high in his community.

On the 3rd of February, 1860, Mr. Reinert was married to Hannah B. Feather, a daughter of Jacob Feather, of New Hanover township, Montgomery county. Mrs. Reinert died December 5, 1894, aged fifty-five years, and was buried at Mount Zion cemetery, Chester county, this State. 'Squire Reinert is a member of Warren Lodge No. 310, Free and Accepted Masons, and is also a Knight Templar. He is a member of the Reformed church of Pottstown, and has served for a number of years as superintendent of the Sunday school.

MARK R. HAGNER, a resident of Upper Merion, and operator of extensive lime quarries in Upper Merion township, is a son of Henry L. and Catharine (Rubincam) Hagner, and was born at Shawmont, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, October 25, 1842. Henry L. Hagner was a first cousin to Charles V. Hagner, who, in September, 1820, purchased from the Schuylkill Navigation company the second water power used along the Schuylkill. This power was used at the latter's mill which he built for making oils and grinding drugs, shortly after adding a fulling mill and power looms for weaving satinets made by Alfred Jenks of Holmesburg. These latter were the first power looms used in Pennsylvania for weaving woolen goods, and this humble establishment became the birth-place of the extensive mills now along the old canal and above Manayunk. He was reared at Roxborough, where he learned the trades of carpenter and builder, which he followed for a life pursuit. He lived successively at Roxborough, the Falls of Schuylkill, and in the city of Philadelphia, and in 1870 retired from active life, returning after a number of years to Roxborough, where he died, November, 1892, aged seventy-four years. He was an old-time Democrat, served as tax collector at Roxborough, and was a school director for several years in Philadelphia, where he was a candidate for the legislature from the twenty-fourth ward.

He was an Episcopalian, and in the year 1830 married Catherine Rubincam, whose father was a resident of Roxborough. Their family consisted of three sons and three daughters: Clara F., widow of Lewis Shronk; Charles B., a resident of Philadelphia; Eleanor, wife of T. F. Ross, of Philadelphia; John, of Philadelphia; Mary W., wife of Rev. Isaac Wilson; and Mark R., whose name appears at the head of this sketch.

Mark R. Hagner was reared at Roxborough and in Philadelphia where he received his education in the public schools of that city. Leaving school, he assisted his father on a farm until the commencement of the late Civil war, when on August 5, 1861, he was mustered in as a member of Company B, 1st Pennsylvania reserve cavalry, and served as corporal until September, 9, 1864, when he was mustered out with his company at Philadelphia. His company was first commanded by Captain Owen Jones, who afterward became colonel. He participated in the following engagements: Drainesville, Woodstock, Mt. Jackson, Harrisonburg, Cross Keys, Rappahannock, Thoroughfare Gap, Bull Run No. 2, Aldie, Warrington, Fred-

ericksburg, Brandy Station, Gettysburg, Fairfield, Shepardstown, Culpepper C. H., Rapidan Station, Auburn, Bristol, New Hope church, and thirteen others, from November 27, 1863, to Weldon railroad, August 21, 1864. He was remarkably fortunate in never being wounded or taken prisoner, and returning from the army he engaged in farming on his father's farm at the Falls of Schuylkill, in which occupation he remained for four years. He then engaged in the lime business with his father-in-law, Lewis Shronk, who had extensive lime quarries just below Norristown.

The Philadelphia yard and Fairmount avenue yard was attended to by him for thirteen or fourteen years, at the end of which time he bought the coal business of William P. Spooner and connected with it the lime business at the corner of Ninth street and Columbia avenue, Philadelphia. He disposed of his interests two years later and purchased a large farm near Quakertown that he tilled for three years. He then removed to Upper Merion township and worked Hugh McInnes' lime quarries up to March 1, 1894, when he rented the quarries and bought the tools and stock used in operating them. He has successfully operated these quarries since, and his lime finds ready sale at home and in the city. He works a considerable force of hands and has his kilns in constant operation. He has been a resident of Norristown and Upper Merion since 1880.

Mark R. Hagner was a Democrat up to 1894, but since then has supported the Republican party. He is a member of Pennsylvania Council No. 342, Royal Arcanum; Cassia Lodge No. 273, Free and Accepted Masons; and Pennsylvania Reserves, Post No. 173, Grand Army of the Republic.

JAMES BICKHART, day manager of the puddling department of the Alan Wood Co.'s rolling mills, of Conshohooken, is a son of Christian and Mary Bickhart, and was born in Chester county, Pennsylvania, February 28, 1845. His father, Christian Bickhart, was a native and life long resident of East Vincent township in Chester county, where he died at eighty-two years of age. Christian Bickert was a Democrat and a member of the German Reformed church. Their union was blessed with eight children, six sons and two daughters: Jacob Christian, Anne Bowers, Ralph, Mary Brownback, Jonas, James (subject), and Hiram.

James Bickhart acquired his education in the usual channels of the township schools. He was reared on the farm, and during the spring and summer months labored in the fields, while his attendance at the public schools was limited to the winter season. He progressed in the common branches as far as they were then taught in the public schools, and at seventeen years of age left both the school and the farm to try life for himself.

His first employment after leaving the paternal roof was as a helper to a puddler in a rolling mill of Pottstown. In 1868 he left Pottstown and settled at Conshohocken, where he entered the rolling mill of the Alan Wood Co. He served as helper and next as puddler, and then became night boss of the puddling department, over which he was appointed day boss or manager in 1881. By experience and natural endowments Mr. Bickhart is well qualified for his present position.

In 1870 Mr. Bickhart wedded Elizabeth Staley, and to their union have been born six children, three sons and three daughters. The sons are Ira, Vincent and Frank-

lin, and the daughters are Zella May, Bertha and Flora.

In politics James Bickhart is a decided Republican, although not a politician in the sense of office holding or office seeking. He is a member of Washita Tribe, Improved Order of Red Men, and the Schuylkill Relief association. He is interested in the Guarantee Building and Loan Association and in some other business enterprises of the busy borough of Conshohocken.

CHARLES S. JENKINS, cashier of the First National bank of Lansdale, and a citizen of prominence, was born in Gwynedd township, on April 14, 1822, and is a son of Edward and Margaret (Sorver) Jenkins. This family is descended from ancestors who came from Wales in the early part of the eighteenth century. His paternal grandfather was John Jenkins, who came into the possession of a large tract of land in the vicinity of Lansdale, Pennsylvania, and was a prosperous tiller of the soil. He took very little interest in party politics, but left his plow to defend his country when his services were needed. He was married to Mrs. Elizabeth Lukens, whose maiden name was Walker. They had the following children: John, Owen, Edward, Jesse, Sarah and Elizabeth.

Edward Jenkins, father of the subject, was accorded a common school education and became a prosperous farmer. In politics he was a Whig and afterwards a Republican, and while he did not aspire to office himself, he took an active part in electing others. He married Margaret Sorver, and four children were born to them. These were: Philip, Mary Ann, who married Charles Matthews; Charles, and Lydia, who died in infancy. He died in the eighty-sixth year of his age.

Charles S. Jenkins went to the county schools of his period and then attended boarding school at Line-Lexington for some time. After finishidg his education he decided to follow teaching as a profession, and for eleven years he acted as an instructor, part of his time being under the old pay school system. By reason of failing health, Mr. Jenkins resigned his position as teacher and became engaged in farming. In 1864 he was elected cashier of the First National bank and has held that position ever since, with honor and credit, over thirty-one years.

Mr. Jenkins is a remarkable man in many ways. He is not only a business man, and a good executive, but he is also a careful financier and a real, natural born, mechanic. He has genius of an inventive kind that has brought him prominence and a goodly income. He invented a revolving map roller that is becoming extensively used and he is now supplying a large number to the government, to railroads and other large corporations. He is also the inventor of a steel plow, apparently of unusual merit, but which has never been put upon the market.

Mr. Jenkins married Tacy, daughter of Stephen Styes, a farmer of Whitpain township. Only three children have been born to this couple: Charles S., and Mary, both of whom are very popular; and Annie, who died in 1880, aged twenty-four years. Mr. Jenkins is a man of very studious habits, extraordinary common-sense and has a commendable thirst for knowledge leaning strongly toward mechanics. In the bank his long term of service speaks for his efficiency, and in social life he commands the highest esteem.

WILLIAM BROMER, a wide-awake business man, and the proprietor of the Bromer merchant tailoring establishment at Schwenksville, is a son of Alfred and Catharine (Shepherd) Bromer, and was born at Schwenksville, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, November 6, 1864. He attended the public schools until he was fifteen years of age, and then took a full six months course at Bryant and Stratton's Business college, of Philadelphia. Returning he worked in various departments of his father's merchant tailoring establishment until 1889, when he succeeded to the proprietorship of the entire business. Mr. Bromer employs seven hundred hands, and has a regular output of eight thousand garments per week which are taken by the leading wholesale clothing houses of Philadelphia; while during the busy trade season of the year he manufactures about ten thousand garments per week. His establishment is a two story structure containing two ware and packing rooms 35x60, a button hole factory 30x40, and two finishing and shaping rooms 12x16 feet. Mr. Bromer is a Republican and a member of the Reformed church, in which he has served for some time as a trustee.

On October 16, 1888, William Bromer married Katie Mary Willard, a daughter of Peter Willard, of Trappe. Their union has been blessed with two children, a son and a daughter.

The Bromer family is one of the old and respectable families of the city of Kiehl, in the grand duchy of Baden, Germany. Frederick Bromer of that city owned an extensive bakery and wine cafe, which were destroyed three times in as many different wars, when Kiehl was subjected to bombardment. These losses reduced him from affluent circumstances to a state of limited means at the time of his death. He reared a family of two sons and one daughter. The eldest son served as a soldier under Napoleon Bonaparte, and was killed during the invasion of Russia. The younger son, Jacob Bromer, learned the trade of tailor and became a merchant tailor in Kiehl. He came to Philadelphia in 1869, but not finding the facilities for business that he was led to believe existed there, he returned to his native city, where he died a few years later. He married and had eight children: Sophia, widow of Richard King, of Schwenksville; Jacob, a soldier in the German army, who took part in the revolution of 1848, in Germany, and came to Philadelphia where he followed merchant tailoring until his death in 1854; Frederick and Minnie who both died in early life; Louise, wife of Christian Mayer, of this county; Alfred; and two others deceased in infancy.

Alfred Bromer was born September 2, 1837, received a fair education, and at fifteen years of age came to Philadelphia, where he learned the trade of tailor with his brother Jacob. After the death of the latter in 1854, he became a journeyman tailor and worked for ten years in various places. At the end of that time, in 1864, he came to Schwenksville and started a small merchant tailor manufacturing establishment, and disposed of his products to the leading clothing houses of Philadelphia. From thenceforward his business career was one of abundant success until he disposed of his establishment to his son William, on January 1, 1889. Since then Mr. Bromer has not been engaged in active business. He is a Republican and a member of the Reformed church, and on April 9, 1860, wedded Catharine Shepherd, a daughter of William Shepherd, of Philadelphia. They have eleven living children: Elizabeth,

wife of Irvin Schwentz, teller of the First National bank; Susan, married Samuel Weller, a salesman of Philadelphia; Rev. Albert, a graduate of Yale college and pastor of a Reformed church in Philadelphia; William, whose name heads this sketch; Rev. Edward, a graduate of Yale college and a pastor of the Orwigsburg Reformed church, in Schuylkill county; Frank, now in his senior year at Lehigh university; Jacob, engaged in business with his brother William; Katie, a graduate of the Philadelphia High school; Minnie, a student at Ursinus college; Cartney and Ralph, who are at home with their parents.

RICHARD T. S. HALLOWELL, is a son of Charles and Mary (Stewart) Hallowell, and was born near Swedesburg, in Upper Merion township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, September 5, 1849. The Hallowell family is of English Quaker ancestry and came from England to southeastern Pennsylvania prior to the year 1700. Nathan Hallowell, the grandfather of Richard T. S. Hallowell, was reared in the religious faith of his American ancestors and was a consistent member of the Society of Friends. He was a Whig and Republican in politics, and resided in close proximity to the Old Swedes church near Swedesburg. His son, Charles Hallowell, was born in Upper Merion township, where he obtained a good common English education. He then learned the trade of wheelwright, which he followed for a life vocation. He worked at different places throughout the county and was employed for some time at Swedes furnace. He was a Whig and Republican politically, and died February 12, 1886, aged seventy-one years. He served as an officer in the old militia organization of the State, and was first lieutenant of the 2nd Montgomery troop of cavalry that helped to quell the Kensington riot at Philadelphia in 1847. He married, in 1844, Mary Stewart, whose father, James Stewart, was a resident of Upper Merion. To their union were born four sons and three daughters: Eugene, Richard, Nathan, Annie, Stewart, Mrs. Eliza Templin, and Mary.

Richard T. S. Hallowell was reared and lived in Upper Merion excepting one year (1851), when his parents resided in Plymouth township. He attended school at Swedeland, and then learned the trade of carpenter, which he has followed ever since in connection with contracting and building. He has served as foreman on the erection of several large buildings, superintended the restoration of Washington's headquarters at Valley Forge in 1887, and was superintendent in 1894, of the construction of the Pennsylvania Soldiers' Orphan Industrial School building in Franklin county. Mr. Hallowell is a staunch Republican, has been a member of the county committee, and is serving on his third term as auditor of his township. He is an active member and vestryman of the Old Swedes Episcopal church, and has been a member, for twenty-five years, of Washington Camp No. 121, Patriotic Sons of America, in which organization he served as State president in 1887-88. He is also a member of the board of directors and secretary of the Centennial and Memorial association of Valley Forge. Mr. Hallowell is a skilled workman, a competent builder and is active, energetic and patriotic.

On September 5, 1877, Mr. Hallowell wedded Jennie Eakins, a daughter of Augustus Eakins, of Philadelphia. Their

union has been blessed with one child, a son, named Frank Thomas Stewart, who was born September 5, 1888.

WILLIAM MOWLDS, the proprietor of a large butchering establishment and meat market at Conshohocken, is a son of Jacob and Ann (Davis) Mowlds, and was born in Plymouth township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, September 24, 1845. His paternal great-grandfather Mowlds came from Ireland, and his father, Jacob Mowlds, was born and passed the greater part of his life at Conshohocken. He afterwards removed to West Conshohocken, and finally removed to Phœnixville, in Chester county, where he died. He was a Republican politically and wedded Ann Davis. Mr. and Mrs. Mowlds reared a family of nine children: George, Mary Jane, who died in infancy; Sallie, wife of Rev. Scott, a missionary to Burmah at the time of their marriage; Cordelia, William, subject; Thomas D., Mary Emma Moore, John H. and Jerry K.

William Mowlds was reared on a farm and received his education in the Mt. Pleasant public schools. At eleven years of age he found employment with his uncle, William Davis, and four years later went to assist William Davis, sr., with whom he remained for four years. He then drove a butcher wagon for his brother-in-law for two years, and next worked for a short time in a stone quarry, which he left to spend two years as a workman in the Alan Wood Company rolling mill. At the end of that time he became a clerk in the grocery store of A. S. Leedom, with whom he remained for two years. He then, in July, 1869, established his present butchering yards and meat market at West Conshohocken, where he does a very profitable business. He owns the property where he resides, which is one and three-quarter miles from the borough. Killing and dressing all of his own meat he furnishes to his patrons a fresh and wholesome article of food. Mr. Mowlds is a supporter of the Republican party, has served as a councilman and is a member of the present board of school directors of West Conshohocken. He is a member of the Baptist church and interested in the Rising Sun Building and Loan association. Mr. Mowlds also takes interest in fraternal and beneficial societies, being a member of Fritz lodge, Free and Accepted Masons, and Gratitude lodge, Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

On March 31, 1870, William Mowlds wedded Sallie Wilde, whose parents are Charles and Elizabeth Wilde. To Mr. and Mrs. Mowlds have been born two children: Eugene and Ethel, the latter now deceased. Eugene Mowlds entered the department of civil engineering of Lehigh university, from which institution he was graduated in the class of 1895. He is now engaged as a civil engineer with Barnes & Davis, a large engineer and contracting firm of Philadelphia.

GEORGE W. DAVIS, one of the foremost and most substantial business men of West Conshohocken, is a son of William and Phebe (Supplee) Davis, and was born at West Conshohocken, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, July 13, 1832. The earliest members of the Davis family in this country, settled in Plymouth township, where it is said that the father of Jefferson Davis, the president of the Southern Con-

federacy, was born and resided for some years.

Reese Davis, the paternal grandfather of George W. Davis, was born in Plymouth township, where he died at an advanced age. He was a farmer and a Friend, and by his marriage had four children: Thomas, Daniel, William and Rebecca Green. William was born in Plymouth township. By a series of misfortunes his father became reduced in means, and he was placed at a tender age with a farmer by the name of Peterman, to be reared to manhood. After attaining his majority he left the Peterman place and rented a farm in Upper Merion township near the Christ's Swede church, and in the vicinity of Bridgeport. In 1826 he removed to West Conshohocken, where he purchased a farm and was engaged until his death in various lines of business. He followed farming, operated a marble mill, handled lime, and for several years ran a line of teams to transfer freight and baggage for the Philadelphia, Germantown and Norristown railroad company. He owned five good farms besides town property, and was the wealthiest man in his section of the county. He was a Democrat and a Friend, and lived an honest, upright and useful life. He served for a number of years as a member of the school board, but declined all offices of a civil or political character. He was twice married.

George W. Davis received a common school education, and after serving as a clerk for four years in a store in which his father was interested, he was sent at nineteen years of age to superintend the cutting of timber on a two thousand acre tract of land owned by his father, in Wayne county. After some seven or eight years spent there he returned home to become a partner with his brother in a store which they conducted up to 1875. He then sold out his interest to his brother, and has been engaged since in various business enterprises. Mr. Davis bought forty-nine acres of his father's estate at West Conshohocken, owns seven houses and lots and has an interest in a store at the latter place, besides owning, in connection with his brothers, a farm of seventy-seven acres in Lower Merion township. He is a stockholder in the Montgomery National and the First National banks of Conshohocken, the bank of North America of Philadelphia, and Title, Trust and Safe Deposit company.

Mr. Davis married Margaret C. Cress. To their union have been born five children, two sons and three daughters: Mary Jacobus, Emma, Annie, Lydia, George I. (deceased), and Reese M.

Mr. Davis is a Republican, although his father was a Democrat. He has served as a member of the town council and was borough treasurer for several years. He is a man of good judg ment and practical business experience, who has been very successful in the various enterprises in which he has been engaged. He is a member of Fritz lodge, Free and Accepted Masons.

DR. CHARLES W. EVERHART, who since 1887 has been a very successful and highly respected practicing physician of Grater's Ford, is a descendant of German ancestry and was born in Sellersville, Bucks county, January 26, 1860. He is a man of wide experience in his profession and deservedly popular. Dr. Everhart's grandfather on his paternal side was born in Philadelphia in 1874. He was a merchant by occupation and was highly respected. He was a Democrat in politics

and a member of the Reformed church. Dr. Everhart's father was born in 1809 at Philadelphia. He secured a common school education and then went to Jefferson Medical college, Philadelphia, where he made rapid progress and graduated with honor. He immediately entered on the practice of medicine and soon won a high name in his profession at Sellersville, Pennsylvania. He was a Republican in politics and was prominent in the affairs of his party in Bucks county.

He was the father of the following children: Josephine Ella, now the wife of Alfred Crist, Esq.; Mary Catharine, who died young; Kate, wife of Dr. C. D. Fretz; Maggie, wife of Rev. S. A. Leinbach, and who died at the age of twenty-three; Mary, wife of Pierson Mickley; Clara, wife of L. S. Shrimer; Lizzie, Annie and the subject of this sketch. He died at the age of seventy-nine.

Dr. C. W. Everhart is the son of C. W. and Elizabeth Everhart. He was educated in the public schools and studied medicine with Dr. C. D. Fretz as his preceptor. He graduated from Jefferson Medical college and then began the practice of his profession at Sellersville, Bucks county, but four years later removed to Grater's Ford, where he has since prospered. He has a very large practice and has earned a prominent place in the community and vicinity. He was married to Lizzie L. Ashenfelter in 1889.

Mrs. Everhart is the daughter of H. J. Ashenfelter and an accomplished woman. Dr. Everhart is a member of the Reformed church, and among his neighbors is known to be a man of enterprise and always ready to take an interest in anything that will result in the good of the town in which he lives.

JOSEPH M. WILSON, who has been established in the carpet weaving business at Lansdale since the 1st of February, 1895, was born in Philadelphia, on June 28, 1857, his parents being John and Mary (Morris) Wilson. He is descended from a family of carpet weavers, his paternal grandfather, William Wilson, having followed that trade all his life in Scotland. He was born at Glasgow about 1750, and was early put to the trade. When he became a journeyman he engaged in business for himself and soon built up a large trade. He was a Whig and afterward a Republican; was a consistent and upright member of the Presbyterian church and also a life long member of the Masonic order. In 1775, he married Jennie Brown, and they had a family of three children: John, Fanny and Kate. He died in 1840, aged ninety years. John Wilson, the father, was born 1798, at Glasgow, and was given a common school education. He was a deep student and in his mature years was a very well informed man. After finishing his school life he learned weaving from his father and followed that vocation with profit all his life. In politics he was a Republican and in religion was an active worker in the Presbyterian church. On April 24, 1853, he married Mary Morris, of Philadelphia, and their wedded life was blessed with only three children: Fanny, William and Joseph, our subject. He was a man of high literary attainments and was a writer of much force, and contributed often to the press. He died April 9, 1879.

Joseph M. Wilson was sent to the district schools where he mastered the common branches. He was forced to turn out to do battle with the stern side of life at an early age, and he went to his father's shop and learned the trade of carpet weaver. After mastering the trade he engaged in business

on his own account at Oxford, Chester county, Pa., where he remained twenty-four years and prospered. He then removed to Germantown, where he remained three years, and from there went to Newtown, Berks county. At the expiration of two years he again made a change, this time going to Doylestown, where he did very well for four years. On the 1st of last February he made his final change and located in Lansdale, where he is enjoying a very fine trade. Mr. Wilson is a true example of the self-made man. He started in life at a tender age and with no backing save the trade his father had taught him. But he was full of ambition and enterprise and that soon made itself felt and he made a success of his calling where he located.

On December 22, 1881, Mr. Wilson married Ida E., daughter of J. C. McDonald, of Oxford. This union was productive of seven children: Richard, who died August 28, 1883; Mary A., William C., J. Harrison, Bruce, Maud and Florence. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and is a Republican in political belief. He belongs to but one fraternal organization, Tribe No. 176, Improved Order of Red Men, of Doylestown.

GEORGE W. PAWLING, ex-recorder of deeds and an active and popular Democrat of Montgomery county, is a son of Dr. H. D. W. and Anna (Bull) Pawling, and was born at King of Prussia, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, January 21, 1848. He was reared at King of Prussia, where he received a good English education, and after leaving school engaged in the drug business with Dr. William Wetherill, of Philadelphia. He remained in the drug business until 1869, when he returned home and assisted his father until the death of the latter in 1893. In the meantime he had taken considerable interest in political affairs, and in 1890 the Democrats made him their nominee for recorder of deeds of Montgomery county, to which office he was elected at the succeeding election. He served as recorder from 1891 to 1894, and is now interested in the stone business with Frank Patterson at Valley Forge, where the first tracts on which they opened quarries were merged into the Valley Forge National park, laid out in 1895. Mr. Pawling is an active Democrat in political affairs, and while prominent in the county council of his party, always gives close attention to the township organization. He has served for nine years as a member of the school board at King of Prussia, and is a member of the Protestant Episcopal church. Of an honored and respected family, George W. Pawling has been active and useful alike in village, township and county affairs.

The Pawlings are descendants of that Henry Pawling who, with his son and grandson Henry, are thus described in an old document: "Henry Pawling came from Maine to New York in 1684, was sheriff there, married Nattee Roosa, daughter of Albert Heyman Roosa, of New York State. His son, Henry Pawling, born 1689, married Jacomyte Hegt, who was the daughter of Cornelius Barnes Hegt, born in South Holland. This Henry Pawling and his brother John came to Upper Providence in 1720, Henry taking up land on the south side of the Perkiomen, John on the north. Henry's remains are buried at Evansburg. The son of this Henry and Jacomyte Hegt was also called Henry, who was born in 1714 and died 1792. He and his wife

Eleanor died some time apart and their remains lie in Evansburg graveyard. Their son, Henry Pawling, who was born in 1746, and married Rebecca Bull, and was the Henry Pawling who was appointed associated judge by Henry Ross on January 20, 1789, and was the Henry Pawling, jr., who, as one of the commissioners, located and purchased ground for the present courthouse and jail. Judge Pawling had three sons and a daughter. William married Rebecca Butler and had three sons: Henry, Albert, Thomas, now dead. Henry died unmarried; Hon Levi, the grandfather of the subject of this sketch, and Eleanor, who married the Rev. Dr. James Milnor, rector of St. George's Episcopal church, New York city."

Hon. Levi Pawling was born in 1772, and at twenty-three years of age was admitted to the Norristown bar, where he practiced for many years and ranked with such eminent lawyers as William Moore Smith and Thomas Ross, the elder. He held many offices of trust and responsibility, but in political faith being a Federalist and in a county strongly Democratic, no legislative office was within his reach or the gift of his party. In 1816 his county was in a Federal district and he was elected to Congress, in which body he served from 1817 to 1819. On October 17, 1804, Mr. Pawling was married by Rev. Henry A. Muhlenberg to Elizabeth Hiester, a daughter of General Joseph Hiester, afterwards Governor of Pennsylvania. Mr. and Mrs. Pawling had seven children: Elizabeth, wife of Hon. Thomas Ross, of Doylestown, Pennsylvania; Ellen, who married Henry Friedley, of Norristown, and died; Rebecca, the first wife of Henry Friedley, of Norristown; Mary, who married Sylvester Rich, of Philadelphia; Joseph H., who died in 1849; James M., a promising lawyer, died in 1838, and Dr. Henry Dewitt, who was born at Norristown, October 28, 1810, and died November 26, 1893.

Dr. Henry DeWitt Pawling was graduated from the University of Pennsylvania, served as assistant surgeon on the United States frigate *Potomac* in a three years cruise around the world, and in 1836 located at King of Prussia, where he had an extensive practice over parts of three counties. He was a Democrat and an Episcopalian, and was a very prominent and active man. In 1837 Dr. Pawling married Anna Bull, who was a daughter Levi Bull, of Chester county, and died July 4, 1862, age forty-five years. Their children were: Nathan, Eva and Levi, who all died in infancy; Dr. Nathan 2nd, accidentally killed in 1872; Dr. Henry, now dead; George W., whose name appears at the head of this sketch; Anna, wife of I. Heston Todd, of Port Kennedy, and who has taken considerable time to trace the early history of the Pawling family in this country; Ellen, who married George Schall, of Norristown; Rosa N., Eva 2nd and Mary.

JOSEPH K. MOORE, the present postmaster of Conshohocken, is a son of William and Elizabeth (McKnight) Moore, and was born in Newtown township, Delaware county, Pennsylvania, May 12, 1839. His paternal grandfrther, Samuel Moore, came with his wife from Ireland to Philadelphia and removed to Leacock township, Lancaster county, which he soon left to locate on the site of Allegheny city, where he owned a farm and died. He was of Scotch-Irish descent, a Presbyterian, and died at forty-two years of age, while his widow

lived to see her fiftieth year. He wedded Hannah McAllister, and their children, six in number, were: William, Samuel, James, Alexander, Hannah Reed, and Jane, who died in childhood. William, the eldest child, was born near McKeesport, this State, October 14, 1799, and became a textile manufacturer. Some time after his father's death, he and his brothers, Samuel, James and Alexander, removed to Newtown township, Delaware county, where they were prominent and leading woolen manufacturers up to 1857. He was a Whig and Republican, and a member and deacon of the Newtown Baptist church, and died March 16, 1891, at ninety-two years of age. He married Elizabeth McKnight, who died February 19, 1886, aged seventy-four years. Their children were: Sarah J. Schofield, Hannah T. Wilfang, Joseph K., subject; Samuel, Mary A. Williams, and Anna E. Martin. Mrs. Moore was a daughter of Kenneth McKnight, who served at Marcus Hook, in the War of 1812, and was a relative of General Hancock. Mr. McKnight wedded Sarah Haxworth, and their children were: Amy Lewis, Jennie Rowland, John, Joseph, Owen, Mary A. Scattergood and Mrs. Moore.

Joseph K. Moore received his education in the common schools of Delaware county, and learned the trade of carpenter, which he followed up to 1862. On August 14, of that year, he enlisted in Company A, 138th Pennsylvania infantry. He saw hard and active service in the Army of the Potomac, and participated in the battles of Brandy Station, Mine Run, The Wilderness, Spottsylvania, Cold Harbor, Fisher's Hill, Cedar Creek, Petersburg and Sailor's Creek, besides numerous skirmishes and minor engagements. He received three wounds, but neither of them was serious. He was honorably discharged near Washington city, June 28, 1865. Returning from the army, he followed carpentering for two years, and then became a trimmer in the Alan Wood company's mill, at Conshohocken, in which he remained for fifteen years. At the end of that time he opened a grocery store on Elm street, and two years later, removed to Hector street, where he continued up to 1885. In that year he disposed of his stock of groceries to embark in the wholesale smoked meat business. In the latter line he operated extensively and had a large trade but sold out his establishment and routes in 1892, when he was appointed to his present position as postmaster of Conshohocken.

Mr. Moore is a Democrat in political affairs, and some years ago was very active in the interest of his party. He also takes interest in educational matters, having served for twelve years as a member of the school board, from which he recently resigned and refused to accept a re-election. He is a member of Gratitude Lodge, Independent Order of Odd Fellows; Fritz Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons; and George Smith Post No. 79, Grand Army of the Republic, of which latter he was the first commander. Mr. Moore has been identified with the various building and loan associations of his borough. He and his family are attendants of the services of the Baptist church, in whose faith and practice he believes. He is active and energetic in whatever enterprise he embarks.

On March 28, 1866, Joseph K. Moore married Anna Holt, and to their union have been born two sons and two daughters: William, Walter, Elizabeth, attending the West Chester State Normal school; and Rachel, now deceased.

JAMES B. SMITH, ex-chief burgess, and at present one of the most popular men in Jenkintown, was born in Bucks county, on the 14th of July, 1836, and is a son of Robert and Rosanna (Barron) Smith. He is of American ancestry, his paternal grandfather having been James Smith, a prosperous farmer of Bucks county. His father, Robert Smith, was born in Bucks county and lived there all his life as a farmer. He was prominent in the military organization of the State, and was a member of the State militia. His brother, Hon. Samuel A. Smith, was a member of congress from Bucks county and was also associate judge of the county. Both men were prominent and active in Democratic politics. The marriage of Robert Smith with Rosanna Barron resulted in the birth of two children: Sarah, and our subject. He died when still an active young man at the age of thirty-eight years.

James B. Smith was educated in the schools of the district and later in New Jersey. He also went to a private school at New Hope. He learned the trade of car builder at Lambertville, New Jersey, and afterwards that of carpenter, finishing his elementary mechanical education by a thorough course in pattern making. He worked for some years at Lambertville and then went to Trenton, New Jersey, where he had charge of the car shops of the Belvidere railroad. He is a Democrat, and while in New Jersey was very active in politics and served as president of the town council of Lambertville.

In 1879 Mr. Smith removed to Jenkintown and has ever since been the popular proprietor of the Jenkintown house. He has been very successful as a landlord and has made his hostelry famous all over the district. Mr. Smith became very prominent in local politics and, being recognized by his fellow townsmen as a man of great executive ability, was elected chief burgess in 1886 and served four years. He was also a member of council and showed himself fully abreast of the times and ready and willing to work for the advancement of his town. Fraternally he is connected with the Knights of Pythias and the Independent order of Odd Fellows, in both of which he is very active.

GEORGE SMITH MILLER, cigar manufacturer, of Sumneytown, this county, is a son of George and Barbara (Smith) Miller, and was born December 21, 1841, at Sumneytown, this county. Primarily, the family was from Germany, whence members of it, becoming dissatisfied with their condition and longing for a greater freedom than was accorded them in their native land, emigrated to the United States. They located in eastern Pennsylvania, perhaps within the limits of what is now Montgomery county. In this county, in the township of Gwynedd, was born George Miller, the father of the subject of this biographical record. He was of a mechanical turn of mind and learned the carpenter trade, which he followed for a time, and then turned his attention to merchandizing, but latterly owned a farm. Politically, he always affiliated with the Republican party, through the suffrages of which party he was elected to the office of justice of the peace. In this office his judgments were characterized by their impartiality, and manifest rendition in accordance with the facts and the law. His marriage with Barbara Smith resulted in the birth of ten children: Frank, Angeline,

Eliza, Henry, Daniel, Lydia, Sarah, George S., subject, Matilda and James. George Smith died at the age of sixty-three years.

Mr. Miller received but a limited education in the public schools of Sumneytown, this county, learned the trade of a tobacconist and followed it for a time, when he in partnership with his brother, Frank Miller, under the firm name of Miller & Brother, engaged in the manufacture of powder near the village of Sumneytown. This partnership was dissolved, but the business was continued by Mr. Miller, making in all about eight years' experience in this line of manufacturing. Retiring for a time from the powder business, he purchased a hotel and farm at Hillegas Station, which he operated for a period of two years, when he retired to Sumneytown and again resumed for a short time the manufacture of powder. Subsequently he began the quarrying of Belgian block for street paving purposes, at Sellersville, Bucks county, doing a large and prosperous business in this line, employing at times as high as two hundred hands. In 1893 he, in partnership with C. F. Shively, under the firm name of Shively, Miller & Co., embarked in the manufacture of cigars at Sumneytown. They have been extensive manufacturers in this line, employing as many as one hundred hands. In addition to these interests, Mr. Miller is interested in real estate in the village and owns a farm of forty-eight acres near it. Politically, he is a Republican, and formerly took an active part and still evinces a commendable interest in his party.

Mr. Miller married Ella, a daughter of Peter Truxall, a farmer and ore miner of Lehigh county, and two children have been born to this union: Anna, wife of Morris Kratz, an ice dealer at Kratz Station, this county, and Lucretia.

George S. Miller has demonstrated his ability to win success in various lines of business. He possesses rare good judgment, unusual executive ability, and that comprehensive insight into the details of a business that can but insure success.

J. WINFIELD WHITE, justice of the peace of Lansdale since 1891, and a man of superior business qualifications and intelligence, is a native of Montgomery county and comes from a family belonging to the Society of Friends, that for generations has been identified with the early history of this section of the State. He is a son of Thomas J. and Hannah (Conrad) White, and was born in Philadelphia, on the 9th of May, 1851. James White was his paternal grandfather and he was born in Montgomery county, in 1755. He was a tailor by trade and followed that business for a number of years. He then became a hotel keeper at Union Square, and also conducted a general store for some years. With his other business he coupled that of farming and owned four fine farms in Montgomery county. In 1840 he retired from active business and lived on one of his farms until his death in 1859, at the remarkable age of one hundred and four years. He was a Whig and an active politician in his section. He was a consistent member of Friends meeting and universally respected. In 1790 he married Elizabeth Jones and they had the following children: Humphrey, Thomas J., John, Jesse, James, Charles, Mary and Margaret. Two of the sons, Humphrey and James were physicians.

Thomas J. White (father) was a promi-

nent school teacher for twenty years. He was born in the township of Gwynedd, on December 6, 1793, and was given the best education that could be secured in the schools of his district. He then began teaching school. He taught at one place, Towamencin, for fifteen years. In 1840 he gave up this profession and engaged in the general store business near Lansdale which he conducted with great profit until 1860, when he bought a large farm near Lansdale and removed to it. Mr. White was a man of great intelligence, and was looked up to and respected by the community. He was active in his district in the affairs of the Whig and afterward the Republican party, but was never an office seeker. In 1847 he married Hannah Conrad, and their union was blessed with one child: J. Winfield.

J. Winfield White, our subject, was given a common school education and then attended Line Lexington academy for two years, finishing his scholastic career with a two years course in Norristown high school. He then secured a position as clerk in a store at Lansdale, where he remained two years, and left there to go to Philadelphia to accept a position in a large wholesale dry goods house. He remained in that city until 1878 when he came back and located on a farm. Mr. White is interested in the stone business and was in the excursion business from 1885 to 1891. He has been a very active man in business, and a successful farmer. In politics he is a staunch Republican and has always been a willing and energetic worker. In the spring of 1892 he was elected justice of the peace and has held that position ever since.

On July 4, 1876, Mr. White was joined in marriage with Lizzie L., daughter of William R. Rittenhouse, of Eagleville. Four children have come as the fruit of this union: William Raymond, born September 3, 1878; Leon R., born October 12, 1880; Stella R., born July 26, 1883, and Harry Willard, born April 8, 1889.

GEORGE W. HOLSTEIN, M. D., a prominent citizen of Bridgeport, and a grand-nephew of General Wayne of Revolutionary fame, is a son of Col. George W. and Elizabeth Wayne (Hayman) Holstein, and was born October 30, 1820. His mother was a niece of General Anthony Wayne, her mother being his sister, and during boyhood, Dr. Holstein frequently drove his mother to the old homestead of General Wayne near Paoli, Chester county, to visit her cousin, Colonel Isaac Wayne and family, where they found the library room of the general just as he left it.

Dr. Holstein received his elementary education in the old academy in Norristown, under the direction of Mr. Eliphalet Roberts, as a classmate of Gen. W. S. Hancock and Gen. Samuel K. Zook. Afterwards he attended the University of Pennsylvania, from which institution he was graduated in the medical department in the class of 1843. Shortly after his graduation he located at Bridgeport, where he was engaged in active practice for fifteen years, but owing to ill health at the end of that time, he abandoned medical practice and embarked in the drug business, which he conducted until 1869. In that year his son, Charles Elliott, was graduated from the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy, and succeeded him. Later Dr. Holstein was employed by the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad company, to assist J. Lowrie Bell, the general freight agent of the road and who, during General Harrison's administration, was second assistant

postmaster general. Dr. Holstein is still assisting the company and has an office at Fourth and Chestnut streets, Philadelphia. He is a Republican in politics, and an energetic party worker. Under Col. John H. Taggart, he served for seven years, during the administrations of Lincoln and Grant, as deputy revenue collector of the First district of Pennsylvania. He was once a candidate for the legislature, but being a member of the minority party, was defeated with the remainder of his ticket. For three years he served as a member of the town council of Bridgeport, as burgess one year, and for thirty years was secretary of the school board of his district. In educational affairs he has taken great interest, and assisted in the organization of the first graded schools of Bridgeport. He is a prominent member of Montgomery Lodge No. 57, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, in which he has served as secretary for thirty-seven years. He is also secretary of Norristown Lodge No. 32, Knights of Pythias; and is a member of Christ (Swedes') church, Upper Merion, of which he has been vestryman for fifty years. He served in Company B, 17th regiment, Pennsylvania militia, at the Battle of Antietam, and was afterwards called upon to act as surgeon at the time of the Battle of Gettysburg. In 1886 Mr. B. Thomas, recorder of deeds for Montgomery county, invited him to act as his deputy, which position he filled to the great satisfaction of the legal fraternity, during the term of Mr. Thomas.

On October 19, 1847, he was united in marriage with Abby Turner Brower, a daughter of Daniel R. Brower, of Phoenixville.

Matthias Holstein, the ancestor of a long line, was born in Philadelphia in 1644. His parents came from Sweden with Governor Peter Minuit, in the good ship *Key of Kalmar*. The Holsteins are numerous in Sweden, Germany and the United States, but this family is the only one of the Swedish branch in the county, and tradition states that the name has descended through a noble line in Sweden. Matthias Holstein died April 9, 1708, at the age of sixty four years, and Matthias Holstein, jr., his second son, removed with his wife, Brita (Rambo) Holstein, to Amasland, now Upper Merion township, Montgomery county, and shortly afterward purchased one thousand acres of land which comprises what is now the borough of Bridgeport and extended back to Red Hill. The oldest date for this tract is 1708. For a time he resided at Swedesford, and in 1714 built a stone house upon his farm one and a half miles from the Schuylkill river, on Spring creek, it being the custom of the old Swedish settlers to locate near streams of water. In that old stone dwelling house four generations of the Holstein family were born and reared and the house still remains in good condition. A large barn was built at the time the dwelling was erected and was standing until just recently.

Colonel George Washington Holstein, father, was born April 10, 1778, the year that Washington with his army were at Valley Forge, and when but eighteen years of age he was one who responded to Washington's call for fifteen thousand men to suppress the Whiskey insurrection. By occupation he was a farmer, and on November 5, 1801, he married Elizabeth Wayne Hayman, of Chester county. The marriage ceremony was performed at the residence of the bride's uncle, Major General Anthony Wayne.

Colonel Holstein was a public spirited

man and was the chief promoter of the Schuylkill Navigation company, in which he served as director. Later he became the chief promoter, and also a director of the company constructing the Norristown bridge across the Schuylkill. He was an active director of the Bank of Montgomery county, and was known to be a good counsellor and adviser in business affairs. He died in 1841. For forty years he served in the capacity of vestryman of the Old Swedes (Christ) church of Upper Merion township, and his congeniality, pleasantness and entertaining conversation won him friends wherever he was known.

Dr. Holstein and wife have three children: Charles E., druggist, Bridgeport; Ella, intermarried with William W. Potts, Swedeland; George Meade, intermarried with Sarah Corson Highley, in charge of the extensive zinc works of R. T. Wilson & Co., Pulaski, Virginia.

IRVIN S. WEBER, the present postmaster at North Wales, is the eldest and only surviving son of Jacob and Eliza (Shearer) Weber, and was born at North Wales, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, June 12, 1861. His paternal grandfather was a farmer and a well respected citizen of Worcester township, where he was active in local politics. He was a Jacksonian Democrat, and married Elizabeth Markley, by whom he had four children, three sons and a daughter: George, Jacob, John and Emeline. Jacob Weber followed farming in Worcester township until past middle age, and then engaged in butchering in North Wales, which he conducted up to the time of his death, February 8, 1883, when in the fifty-eighth year of his age. He was influential in political affairs like his father, and served as a delegate to Congressional and other conventions and did his share towards changing the county politically in 1860. He was a member of the Masonic Lodge at Fort Washington, and also held membership in I. O. O. F. and the Knights of Pythias.

Irvin S. Weber was reared at his native place, received his education in the public schools and Brunner's academy at North Wales, and then entered the printing office of the North Wales *Record*, where he learned the trade of printing. After completing his trade he worked for ten years as a compositor, spending part of that time on the *Record* and several months in the office of the Philadelphia *Item*. At the end of that time he went to Ambler where he started and ran the *Gazette* for one year. He then returned to Philadelphia where he was engaged in the trade until 1892. In that year he accepted a position on the *Record*, which he held until the succeeding year when he was appointed by President Cleveland, postmaster of North Wales, which he has held up to the present time.

On October 30, 1889, Mr. Weber married Lizzie Kriebel, of West Point, Pennsylvania.

Mr. Weber has always faithfully discharged the duties of every position in which he has served. He is an active Democrat, has been a county committeeman for several years, and was elected several times as an election inspector in his polling precinct as well as a delegate to the Democratic State convention. He is a member of St. Peter's Lutheran church, a member of North Wales Lodge No. 610, Independent Order of Odd Fellows; Gilt Edge Castle No. 138, Knights of the

Golden Eagle; and has been representative for the latter to the Grand Castle for two terms.

CYRUS H. CALEY, a prosperous farmer of near Abrams, is the eldest son of Samuel and Lucy C. (Hickman) Caley, and was born at Radnor, Delaware county, Pennsylvania, February 11, 1842. He was reared in Delaware and Chester counties, received his education in the public schools and the Millersville State Normal school, and then was engaged in farming for his father until his marriage. After his marriage he rented a farm near White House, in Chester county, which he left three years later to purchase a farm in Delaware county, on which he resided up to 1882. He then spent one year in Plymouth township, and afterwards became interested in the Jacob Beidler place, where he remained until 1887, when he purchased his present farm of fifteen acres of land near Abrams and in Upper Merion township. Mr. Caley is a careful and prosperous farmer and a safe and reliable business man. He is a Republican and a member of Valley Meeting of the Society of Friends. He is a school director and was also a supervisor of highways for two years while residing in Delaware county. When Lee's invading legions were sweeping northward in 1863, Mr. Caley enlisted for ninety days in Company E, Forty-seventh Pennsylvania volunteer militia and served near Gettysburg and along the Potomac river.

On March 16, 1865, Mr. Caley married Annie L. Beidler, whose parents are Abraham and Sarah Beidler, of Upper Merion. To Mr. and Mrs. Caley have been born eight children: Harry (deceased), Sarah L., Ella B. (Mrs. William Frederick), Laura M., J. Oswald, Jonathan R., D. Ashmore and Hannah M.

The Caley family is of English descent and locate their first new world home at Newtown Square, in Delaware county, where in the third generation from the immigrant ancestor was born Samuel Caley, the grandfather of the subject of this sketch. Samuel Caley was a farmer and Whig, and first united with the Baptists, but afterwards joined the Friends or Quakers. His son, Samuel Caley, was born March 14, 1815, and passed his life at Newtown Square in Delaware county, except six years, during which he resieed at Radnor, Delaware county. He was a well-to-do farmer and a consistent Friend or Quaker. He was a Whig, and after that great political party went down he became one of the early Republicans. He was active and industrious and died November 31, 1886, aged seventy-one years. In 1841 Samuel Caley was united in marriage with Lucy C. Hickman, a daughter of Cyrus Hickman. They reared a family of six children: Cyrus H., Samuel, jr., William, Elizabeth, Hannah (Mrs. E. Garwood), and Margaret.

WILMER H. JOHNSON, the editor and proprietor of the *North Wales Record*, is a son of Richard A. and Elizabeth Hampton Johnson, and was born near Pineville, in Buckingham township, Bucks county, Pennsylvania, March 16, 1849. The Johnsons are Hollanders in lineage, and their original immigrant ancestor, Dick Johnson, came to America about 1614. He was an early settler at Germantown, and one of his descendants, John L. Johnson, lived in Bucks county, owning for some time there, Henricks' Island, near Centre

Bridge, in the Delaware river. John L. Johnson learned the trade of miller with the celebrated Livsey's, on Wissahickon Creek, at Roxborough, and then became a resident of Bucks county, in which he purchased a large tract of land from the Paxson family, from which Judge Paxson was decended. He was a Quaker, and an earnest advocate of free schools, and married Sarah Ridgeway, of Mount Holly, New Jersey, by whom he had ten children. Their son, Richard A. Johnson, was reared and educated in his native country.

Wilmer H., son Richard A., attended Excelsior Normal institute, at Carversville, one of the instructors in which was L. Newlin Fell, who afterwards became a Supreme Court Judge of Penna. Wilmer afterwards went to Doylestown, where he learned the printing trade in the office of the *Bucks County Intelligencer*. Leaving Doylestown, October, 1869, he secured his first situation on the New York Anti-Slavery *Standard*, which he soon left to become editor of the Brooklyn *Advocate*. At the death of this paper he became assistant foreman on the Brooklyn *Daily Times*, but was soon placed on the reportorial staff to look up and write whatever of historic interest he was able to gather in connection with the growing City of Churches, and his work was so competently done that he was engaged in a similar capacity by the *Argus* and also the *Eagle*, two leading afternoon papers of Brooklyn. His health, became impaired by the strain and the enervating labor of his important position, and at the close of the famous Beecher-Tilton trial, which concluded his newspaper work in Brooklyn, in 1875, he returned home to recuperate. In the spring of the ensuing year he went to Philadelphia and acted there as the Centennial correspondent of the *Saturday Evening Post*. With the termination of this engagement his service as a correspondent ended, as he determined to enter upon journalism for himself, and accordingly purchased a half interest in the North Wales *Record*. Nine months later he secured the other half interest, and since then has been actively engaged in improving it and in increasing the circulation. The *Record* is an independent Republican paper, and has been an active and forcible factor in the advancement of the interests of that section of the county. While local matters have prominence, yet general news and everything of importance has faithful and intelligent record. Mr. Johnson is a clear and entertaining writer, and has always been in the van of every improvement made at North Wales. He is a Republican, and has served as a school director and a councilman. He is an Encampment member of Odd Fellows and a member of the Odd Fellow Lodge, No. 610, and Othello Lodge, No. 50, and Knights of Pythias.

On March 23, 1872, Mr. Johnson married Bella Geary Bleiler, of Doylestown, who died October 14, 1886, leaving four children: George, Roydon, Russell and Byron. On November 1, 1888, Mr. Johnson wedded Alice Hoffman, of Norristown, and their wedding trip extended through the northwest to the Rocky mountains. To his second union have been born three children: Irma Alice, David Lawrence and Miriam Hoffman.

EZRA H. BROWN, real estate dealer, insurance agent and tax collector for the borough of Norristown, is a son of Clayton L. and Emma (Haines) Brown, and was born April 27, 1848, in Burlington county, New Jersey. He is a descendant

of William Brown, an English Quaker, who was among the pioneer settlers of the State of New Jersey. Isaac Brown, grandfather, was born in New Jersey, where he pursued the avocations of a lumberman and a farmer. He adhered all his life to the tenets of the Quaker church and was a Whig in political belief and practice. He married Sarah Lippincott, and their children were: William L., Clayton L., father; George and Beulah. Isaac Brown died in 1877, at the age of eighty-eight years.

Clayton L. Brown, father, was born in Burlington county, New Jersey, 1820, and died in the same county June 11, 1876. He obtained a good education and for a time was engaged in the profession of teaching; later he added to this the pursuits of husbandry. In his early manhood he was a Whig, but upon the dissolution of that party in 1856, became a Republican and held many local offices in the community in which he lived.

On March 19, 1846, he wedded Emma, a daughter of Ezra Haines, of Burlington county, New Jersey, and three children blessed their union: Sarah L., the wife of J. B. Joyce, of New Jersey; Ezra H., subject; and Rachel H.

Ezra H. Brown was educated in the Westtown Boarding school, a Quaker institution of Chester county, this State. Obtaining a liberal education, Mr. Brown entered upon the profession of teaching for six years in Burlington county, New Jersey. Subsequently he accepted a position as book-keeper in Philadelphia, in which capacity he was employed for a period of nine years. In 1882 he removed to Norristown, and in 1888 was elected receiver of taxes for that borough, a position he has held ever since. In 1888 he associated himself with Charles F. Cloud and Charles Johnson for the purpose of conducting a real estate, insurance and money brokerage business, under the firm name of Brown, Cloud & Johnson. Since 1891 Mr. Brown has been secretary and treasurer of the Consumer's Ice company. A Republican, he has always taken a deep interest in the success of his party, and when a young man, served as clerk of the township in which he resided.

On November 12, 1872, he married Emma M. Sheppard, a daughter of Charles Sheppard, and three children have blessed their married union: Elizabeth S., Clayton L., and Mary S. Elizabeth married George Lane, of Poughkeepsie, New York, April 11, 1895; Clayton L. is taking a course of five years at Westtown school, Chester county, Pa.; and Mary S. died aged four months.

B. BROOK ADAMS, a retired business man and quarry operator, is the only surviving son and child of David and Elizabeth Adams, and was born at King-of-Prussia, in Upper Merion township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, January 14, 1838. David Adams was a son of David Adams, sr., who was a stone mason by occupation, a Democrat politically, and resided near Bridgeport. David Adams was a life-long resident of Upper Merion township, in which he died September 19, 1885, when in the seventy-fifth year of his age. He learned the trade of pump-making and carried on the business up to 1843, in which year he retired from the occupation, which had, by that time, lost some of its profitable and remunerative features. In the same year that he closed up his pump-making establishment, he purchased the Reeseville lime quarry, which he operated

quite successfully for the long period of thirty-four years. A few weeks later, on February 10, 1877, he sold his plant, comprising quarries, kilns, and buildings, to Franklin Derr, and lived in a manner retired during the rest of his life. He was a Democrat and loyally supported his party in its days of adversity as well as in the hours of victory and seasons of triumph. Mr. Adams wedded Elizabeth Brook. To Mr. and Mrs. Adams were born four children: Jehu, Samuel B., Brook, and Francis, all of whom are dead except B. Brook, whose name heads this sketch.

B. Brook Adams was reared in his native township, trained to habits of industry, and received his education in the common schools. At fifteen years of age he commenced working at his father's marble quarries, and in a few years became manager and then secured an interest in the business. He remained in the marble business for twenty-four years, but since the sale of the plant in 1877 to Francis Derr, he has not been actively engaged in any particular enterprise, and gives his time principally to the supervision of his personal affairs.

In political matters Mr. Adams takes a proper and due interest, and has served one term as township auditor. He is an Independent Democrat. Some years ago Mr. Adams joined the Odd Fellows, Knights of Pythias, and Knights of Friendship. He is a careful and safe business man.

JOHN F. WEYAND, a man of extended business experience, of Pennsburg, this county, is a son of Charles and Sarah (Fagley) Weyand, and was born July 14, 1866, in New Hanover township, this county. Charles Weyand, father, son of John Weyand, was one of two sons, William being the other, and was born in Berks county, this State, in the year 1820, and died in New Hanover township, this county, in 1888. He was reared on his father's farm in Berks county, until eighteen years of age, when he migrated to Montgomery county and settled in the woods. With characteristic German industry and frugality, he began to clear up a farm and establish a home. In this worthy object he was successful and in addition to becoming a well-to-do farmer and cattle dealer, was engaged for a number of years in the mercantile business in New Hanover township. He was a follower of the Jeffersonian Democracy and a member of the Reformed church. His marriage with Sarah Fagley resulted in the birth of two children: John F., subject; and Charles, deceased.

John F. is indebted to the common schools of the township and Perkiomen seminary for his educational training. At the age of sixteen, he was engaged by a drover, with whom he remained a few weeks, making but one trip. Having thus gained some knowledge of the business and being of an ambitious spirit, he resolved to enter upon the same line of operations on his own account, which he later did, and continued up to the year 1884. Upon the latter date he took up merchandizing at Pleasant Run, this county, which he continued until November, 1888, the date upon which he sold out. He then came to Pennsburg and went into the carriage and harness dealing trade, adding to this line the next year, the livery business. He built in 1892, the large livery stable which he now occupies. Mr. Weyand is a Democrat and is serving his fourth term as burgess of Pennsburg, being

the second man to hold that office. As one of the first burgesses of the borough, many matters of importance pertaining to the inauguration of the municipal government have been disposed of, and Mr. Weyand's policy on all these matters has been commended by all the progressive citizens of the town. Fraternally he is a member of the Pennsburg Lodge No. 449, I. O. O. F., and of Pennsburg Encampment No. 234, I. O. O. F.

In November, 1889, Mr. Weyand wedded Martha C. a daughter of Levi and Caroline Bitting, and two children are the issue of this union: Huldah S., and Charles.

Mr. Weyand is a director of the Farmers' National bank and takes a lively and intelligent interest in the welfare and material advancement of his borough.

WILLIAM H. SHOEMAKER, who for a number of years has been extensively engaged in mercantile pursuits at Ogontz, is one of the most successful business men of that section of Montgomery county. He was born in Jenkintown on June 29, 1859, and is a son of Joseph A. and Esther (Harper) Shoemaker. He is descended from the Huguenots, who immigrated to this country in the seventeenth century. A full detailed account of his ancestry will be found in the sketch of his father on another page of this work.

Mr. Shoemaker was sent to the Friends' school in Abington township and afterward attended the Friends' Central high school at Sixteenth and Race streets, Philadelphia. He then took a course in the Pierce Business college. In 1880 he graduated from this school and engaged in the butchering business with his father. At the expiration of two years he went to Colorado, where for another year he was engaged as a horse buyer, shipping large quantities of horses to the east. He then returned to Jenkintown and became engaged in the meat business once more. For six years he remained here and then purchased the ice business of James Satterthwaite at Ogontz, where he has continued ever since.

Mr. Shoemaker is of a very progressive and enterprising disposition, and in addition to his ice business engaged in quarrying stone and selling coal. Three years ago he put in an ice making plant with a capacity of forty tons per day, and he now supplies a wide territory in his immediate neighborhood with manufactured ice. Though having large business interest in Ogontz Mr. Shoemaker resides in Jenkintown, where he is very influential as a Republican politician. He was elected a member of the town council in 1893 and has served ever since. In 1888 he married Madge H. Wentz, daughter of A. D. Wentz. They have no children. Mr. Shoemaker is an earnest advocate of improvement in his town and is respected and esteemed by his fellow citizens.

CHARLES IRA CHRISTMAN, bookkeeper for the Whiting Paper company of Philadelphia, is a son of Charles and Mary T. (Miller) Christman, and was born June 8, 1852, at Norristown, this county. His paternal grandfather was Charles Christman, of German extraction, a farmer near Limerick Station in Linfield township, this county.

Charles Ira Christman was educated in the public schools of Norristown and at

Treemount seminary under the direction and tutelage of Prof. John W. Loch. He took the regular course in that institution and served an apprenticeship of four years to learn the trade of a carpenter. Becoming dissatisfied with this line of work, he attended Bryant & Stratton's Business college at Philadelphia, from which institution he graduated. He then accepted a position as book-keeper for E. J. Spangler, an envelope manufacturer of Philadelphia, where he remained three years, when he went west and for some time held a position of responsibility and trust in the general store of John M. Kilton & Co. in Michigan. He returned to Norristown and took a position as book-keeper in the employ of the Whiting Paper company of Philadelphia, a position he has held to the present time. Mr. Christman is a Republican politically, and a member of the Central Presbyterian church, whilst fraternally he belongs to the Royal Arcanum and the National Union.

On June 10, 1880, Mr. Christman and Sarah S., a daughter of Dr. William M. McEwen, were united in marriage, and two children, William H. and Mabel McEwen, bless their marital relation.

Dr. William M. McEwen was a prominent physician of Norristown and Montgomery county. He was born in 1809 and died in Norristown in 1872. He was educated in that renowned institution of learning, the Jefferson Medical college, of Philadelphia. He then took up the practice of his profession in Montgomery county, practicing in various points in the county, and at one time was engaged in the drug business at the corner of Third and Race streets, Philadelphia. During his latter days he lived in Norristown. At one time he held a position as member of the pension examining board of Montgomery county. His wife's maiden name was Sarah Snyder, and their children were: Emma L.; Mary E.; Rachel C.; Ellen H., deceased; Sarah S.; Rebecca S.; Frank and Oscar, both deceased.

WILLIAM H. KRIDER, a prominent carriage merchant of Norristown, son of Solomon and Sarah (Haines) Krider, was born August 30, 1838, in Upper Macungie township, Lehigh county, Pennsylvania. His paternal grandfather, John Krider, of German parentage, settled sometime prior to the Revolutionary war in what is now Lehigh county, where as a pioneer settler he followed agricultural pursuits. He was a member of the Lutheran church and an ardent Whig politically. He was twice married and had a large family. A number of his sons fought for freedom's cause in the Revolutionary war, in which conflict one of them lost his life at the battle of Long Island, where his remains now lie buried. Solomon Krider was born in what was then Northampton but now Lehigh county. The schools that marked his boyhood days in Northampton county were very inefficient, but by dint of close application as a student coupled with good natural ability, he obtained a good education for the times, then taught school for a period of ten years. After he gave up teaching, he was engaged in the manufacture of household goods at Trexlertown, Lehigh county, where with the exception of two years, he lived all his life. He was a chemist of considerable practical ability for the time, and was the author and publisher of a treatise on "Practical Family Dyeing," that possessed considerable merit, and had

a large sale for that day. A Whig prior to the organization of the Republican party and an ardent Republican from the inception of that party in 1856, he took a commendable interest in the political measures that were brought before the people and was always well posted on the current affairs of the day. He was a reader and a thinker, a man of good judgment and possessed the confidence of all who had dealings with him and was frequently sought for his advice on business, legal and social matters. His marriage resulted in the birth of six children: Sarah S., Joseph, William H., Franklin H., Jane S., and Anna M. Solomon Krider died at the age of seventy-nine years.

William H. Krider received but the elements of an education through his attendance at the public schools of his township. Leaving school he served an apprenticeship to learn the trade of a carriage builder, and followed that trade as a journeyman for two years. He then entered upon the study of the art and science of dentistry in the office and under the preceptorship of Dr. Joseph Miller. After completing the course he practiced the profession four years, when disliking the confinement incident to the work, he gave it up and again took up his trade at which he worked for a time, and then for five years was engaged as a salesman. In 1891 he embarked in the carriage selling business on his own account in Norristown, and has continued in that line to the present time. He is a Republican politically and has served as a member of the school board of Norristown borough, always showing a deep interest in the cause of popular education. He is a devoted member and deacon of the Lutheran church and a respected member of Lehigh Lodge, No. 526, Free and Accepted Masons.

In 1860 he wedded a daughter of John Lutz, of Bucks county, and seven children have blessed their union: Robert C., a salesman, and resident of West Philadelphia; Emma, a teacher; Annie L., wife of Henry L. Field, a salesman, of Allentown, Pennsylvania; Sarah, deceased; Margaret E., a stenographer and typewriter; Mary J., deceased, and William S.

JACOB H. BEIDLER, an industrious farmer and pork butcher, living near Abrams, is a son of Abraham and Sarah (Stevens) Beidler, and was born in Upper Merion township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, March 21, 1859. He was reared in his native township until he was fourteen years of age and then went to Chester county, where he remained until he had attained his majority. He received his education in the public schools of Upper Merion township and Chester county, and at twenty-one years of age commenced life for himself as a farmer in Norriton township, the following year coming to where he now resides. His farm, which is within one mile of Abrams, contains 110 acres of land, which is well adapted to agricultural purposes in general. To its cultivation and improvement he gives his time principally.

On March 31, 1887, Mr. Beidler was united in marriage with K. Jennie Shainline, a daughter of Jonathan Shainline, a resident of Upper Merion. Their union has been blessed with four children, one son and three daughters: Helen, Warren, Ethel and Anna.

Jacob H. Beidler is a Republican in political opinion and has served as tax collector of his township for one term. He is a member of Valley Meeting of the Society

of Friends. The Beidler family is of German descent, and has resided for over a century in Chester county, where Jacob Beidler, the grandfather of Jacob H. Beidler, was born and reared and lived to be ninety years of age, dying in 1865. He was a farmer and a Whig, and his son, Abraham Beidler, was reared and educated in Tredyffrin township, Chester county, and became a school teacher, but not liking that profession turned his attention to farming and dealing in wood lands. He purchased wood options on large tracts of land and cut the timber, which he sold to the large wood yards in Philadelphia and elsewhere. He afterwards purchased a farm containing fifty acres of woodland near Port Kennedy and in Upper Merion township, which he cleared and upon which he erected buildings, consisting of a barn and two houses. This he tilled until he died, May 9, 1872, aged sixty-two years. He was a Republican and Quaker and held the offices of school director and road supervisor in his township. In 1841 he married Sarah Stevens, a daughter of Stephen Stevens. Their living children were: Hannah M., wife of M. Davis; Anna L., married Cyrus Caley; Maggie C., wife of Abraham Metz; Stephen L., Ella P., wife of J. Elliott; Fannie E., married M. Thomas; Louisa, wife of J. J. Roberts, and Jacob H., whose name heads this sketch.

DANIEL S. ALTHOUSE, carriage manufacturer, of Pennsburg, Montgomery county, is a son of Daniel S. and Sarah (Stahl) Althouse, and was born May 1, 1848, near East Greenville, Upper Hanover township, this county.

Henry Althouse, paternal grandfather, lived in the latter part of his life in Hereford township, Berks county, where he owned a small farm and followed the pursuits of agriculture. His wife's maiden name was Julia Shultz, and their marriage resulted in the birth of two sons and three daughters: Daniel, Lydia, Henry, Hannah and Sarah.

Daniel S. Althouse, father, was born in Hereford township, Berks county, on April 13, 1812, and died August 11, 1891. When a young man he learned the trade of a shoemaker, which he followed exclusively for a number of years, but latterly followed farming in Upper Hanover township in connection with his trade. He was a devout and consistent member of the Reformed church, in which he held various official positions, and always took an active part in all matters pertaining to the welfare and the evangelization of the race. He was philanthrophic and generous and one of the provisions of his will stipulated that twenty per cent. of his estate should be bequeathed to the church and missionary work. Five children blessed his marriage union with Sarah Stahl. They are as follows: Henry, Daniel S., Elizabeth, Harrison and Samuel.

Daniel S. Althouse learned the coach building trade with Horace Miller, in Upper Hanover township, this county, serving an apprenticeship of three years, and one year more to still further perfect his trade. He then worked at journey work six years at various places, and in 1871 went into the business on his own account at Milford Square, Bucks county, where he remained two years, after which he came to Pennsburg and established his present business. He built a factory 80x23 feet, two stories high, and since then has built a warehouse 30x24 feet, three stories high, a blacksmith shop 24x30 feet, and a lumber shed 32x26

feet. Recently he built the fine residence in which he now lives. It is a pressed brick structure of fine architectural appearance, 32x40 feet, and two and one-half stories high, handsomely, substantially and tastefully finished inside and outside, and combines in an eminent degree the elements of beauty and utility. Mr. Althouse is a Republican and a consistent member of the Reformed church. On December 24, 1870, he married Elizabeth Nase, a daughter of Elias Nase, and two children bless their union: Frank and Howard. Mrs. Elizabeth (Nase) Althouse died in 1882 at the age of thirty-eight years, and Mr. Althouse married as his second wife Mary Ann Erb, a daughter of George Erb, ex-county commissioner. Three daughters, Annie Irene, Ella May and Eva Leona bless this marital alliance.

JOSEPH C. JONES, retail lumber dealer of Conshohocken, is a son of Charles and Sarah (Reed) Jones, and was born December 5, 1841, in Conshohocken, then in Whitemarsh township, this county. He is of Welsh-Quaker stock, but his great-great-grandfather, Jonathan Jones, transferred his residence from the old world to the new in 1747. He settled in the vicinity of the present borough of Conshohocken where he took up a tract of land containing two hundred acres on a part of which Conshohocken now stands. He was one of the pioneer settlers and passed through the customary trials. One of his sons was John Jones who had a son Isaac Jones, who was the grandfather of the subject of this record. Isaac Jones was born on the homestead founded by his grandfather, and lived in that vicinity all his life mainly engaged in agricultural pursuits, but was also extensively engaged in lime burning, shipping the product via the Schuylkill canal and river to Maryland and New Jersey. Politically he was a Whig and regliously a minister of the Hicksite branch of the Quaker church, belonging to Plymouth Meeting.

Charles Jones, father, was born in 1811, in Whitemarsh township, Montgomery county, was reared upon the paternal acres, and followed farming as a life vocation, owning a farm now included in the limits of the borough of Conshohocken. He was a member of the Society of Friends, and a Republican in political principle, taking an active part in the local government of his borough and all matters pertaining to the welfare of the community at large. His marriage with Sarah Reed, was blessed in the birth of seven children: Ellen C., wife of David R. Jones, of Norristown; Joseph C., subject; Martha, Jonathan R., Sallie, Charles and James Cresson, deceased.

Joseph C. Jones received a good academic education in Treemount seminary at Norristown, under such competent and skilled educators as Professors Samuel Aaron and John W. Loch. Leaving school, he engaged in agricultural pursuits with his father, and continued in this line until the outbreak of the Civil war when he enlisted in the 4th regiment, Pennsylvania militia, under Colonel Knowerder, of Allentown and Captain Henry Bonsall of Norristown. The regiment was taken to Hagerstown, Maryland, where it was held for a time and was then mustered out. He then enlisted in the 17th Pennsylvania cavalry, in the army of the Potomac, and served in all the battles of his regiment from the battle of Chancellorsville to the close of the conflict. The most important are the following: Cold Harbor, Seven Days battle, Gettys-

burg, and the surrender of Lee at Appomattox. Although he took part in some of the most hotly contested battles of the war, yet he was never seriously wounded. He was captured while on a reconnoitering party near Lynchburg, Virginia, but soon made his escape. Having served his country faithfully in its hour of greatest peril and discharged with fidelity his every duty as a soldier, he returned home and once more resumed the peaceful pursuits of a farmer. His father having died in 1863, he succeeded to the management of the farm in Whitemarsh township, where he remained three years and then removed to Conshohocken aad became a member of the firm of E. D. & J. C. Jones, and engaged in the lumbering business. This business relation continued until 1880 when the caption of the firm became Evan D. Jones & Company, and has remained the same to the present time.

Mr. Jones is recognized as a careful, methodical and successful business man, and in addition to giving a careful supervision to the interests of the business with which he is connected, finds time to take part in other matters of a financial and industrial nature that stand as the mutual measure of the thrift and progress of his town. He is president of the Guarantee Building and Loan association, and a director of the Home Building and Loan association. Politically he is a Republican, has served a number of years as a member of the school board of his borough and as councilman two terms. He is a member in high standing of George Smith Post No. 79, G. A. R., at Conshohocken.

On December 5, 1867, Mr. Jones married Emma, a daughter of Charles Wood, formerly of Conshohocken, and to this union have been born five children: Nellie, who died at the age of twenty-four years; Charles W.; J. C. Frank, a clerk with his father; Florence and Alan.

JOHN T. DYER, a prominent and an extensive railroad contractor of Norristown, Pennsylvania, is a son of Richard H. and Caroline (Huff) Dyer, and was born in Lehigh county, Pennsylvania, April 19, 1848. Mr. Dyer's maternal and paternal progenitors were of English-Quaker origin, and figured prominently among the pioneer settlers of eastern Pennsylvania. Both families settled in the same vicinity, and the Dyers founded the village in Bucks county, which was christened Dyerstown in their honor.

Jesse Dyer, grandfather, a prosperous and well-to-do farmer, was born at Dyertown and died near Doylestown, the county seat of Bucks county, in 1855, aged eighty-two years. He was an orthodox Quaker and married Lucinda Huff, who bore him the following sons: Thomas P., Richard H., and John S.

Richard H. Dyer, father, was born at Warrington, Bucks county, in 1817, and after obtaining a good education, he engaged in teaching in the public schools of Lehigh county. After pursuing this line of work a short period of time, he engaged in contracting and building, and finally drifted into the lumber business in Lehigh county. He was also engaged in general merchandising, shipping produce, etc., to Philadelphia, New York and other eastern cities. He was a careful, conscientious and methodical business man, and was uniformly successful in the various business enterprises with which he was connected. Aggressive, enterprising and public spirited,

all useful enterprises found in him a hearty and earnest support; humane, philanthropic and charitable, no worthy poor or eleemosynary institution ever sought his aid in vain; and a thorough, consistent and zealous Christian, he contributed liberally to the churches of all denominations. In 1854 he located at Slatington, his home at the time of his death, which occurred in 1876. In 1845 the nuptials were celebrated which made Mr. Dyer and Caroline Huff, husband and wife. Their marriage was productive of six children: William P., John T., Eugene, Elizabeth, Emily and Laura.

John T. Dyer was educated in the public schools, and after leaving school, was engaged for a time in the capacity of a clerk in the quarries at Slatington. Subsequently he was employed for a period of years superintending the construction of railroads. In 1880, he launched extensively into railroad contracting on his own account, and was first employed on the New York, Ontario and Western and the Schuylkill Valley railroads. Afterwards he built the Bay Ridge and Annapolis railroad; fourteen miles of the Ohio River railroad, from Parkersburg, West Virginia, south; fourteen miles on the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul railroad. He also built the terminal at Waterbury, Connecticut, and seven sections of the Trenton Cut-Off railroad.

Mr. Dyer is a member of the German Reformed church. On December 11, 1876, he was united in marriage with Mary F., a daughter of the late Dr. Cornelius S. Baker, who was a prominent physician of Norristown. To the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Dyer were born six children: Elsie, Caroline, Frederick, John L., William Gordon and Marion.

Mr. Dyer is an energetic, enterprising and careful business man and preeminently the architect of his own fortune. Thrown upon his own resources in early life, he has by persevering toil and indefatigable effort won success and position, and to-day he ranks as one of the most reliable and successful railroad contractors of eastern Pennsylvania.

HENRY M. BROWNBACK, a rising young lawyer of the Norristown bar, who has served three years as district attorney, is the youngest son of James and Ellen (March) Brownback, and a native of West Vincent township, Chester county, Penna., where he was born, December 17, 1860. The Brownback family, now numerous and influential in Eastern Pennsylvania, traces its origin back to Germany, and was planted in America by Garrett Brownback (originally written Gerhard Brumbach), who came over from Amsterdam in the sailing ship *Concord* in 1683, and settled first at Germantown, near Philadelphia, and later removed to Chester county. There he became a large land holder, kept the first hotel in his section, and was the founder of Brownback's German Reformed church. He died in 1757, at an advanced age. One of his descendants, in the third generation, was William Brownback, paternal grandfather of the subject of this sketch, who was a prominent farmer of Chester county, where he died July 29, 1890, aged eighty-four years. He was a lifelong member of the Reformed church, in the upbuilding and success of which he took a lively interest, and was a well known and esteemed citizen of his county.

He married Eliza Wilson, by whom he had a family of four children, one of his sons being James Brownback (father), who

F. G. Hobson

was born March 4, 1833, in Chester county, Pennsylvania. After obtaining a common school education James Brownback embarked in agricultural pursuits, which he followed successfully for a number of years. In 1865 he disposed of his other interests and engaged in the foundry business. He is president of the March-Brownback stove company, of Pottstown, this county, though he still resides at Linfield. He is also financially interested in a number of other industrial enterprises. Politically he is an ardent Republican, and has always taken an active part in local politics and public affairs, though he has never cherished any ambition for political preferment himself, being better pleased to devote his energy entirely to business. He is a member of the Reformed church and of the Masonic fraternity, and served for some time as trustee of Ursinus college at Collegeville. In 1857 he married Ellen March, of Lawrenceville, Chester county, and to them was born a family of three children: Ada E., now the wife of Henry G. Kulp, of Pottstown; William M., married Annie Yocum, of Bryn Mawr, and Henry M., subject of sketch.

Henry M. Brownback was brought by his parents when only seven years old to Linfield, this county, where he grew to manhood and obtained his primary education in private and select schools and at Ursinus college, Collegeville, Pennsylvania. Subsequent to his college career he began reading law in the autumn of 1878 with Franklin March, of the Montgomery county bar. Having completed the course of study and passed the usual examination, he was duly admitted to the bar of this county December 6, 1882, and at once began the practice of his profession. He subsequently formed a law partnership with his former preceptor, Franklin March, under the firm name of March & Brownback, which continued in force until January 1, 1893, at which time the partnership was dissolved by mutual consent, and Mr. Brownback has since conducted his law practice alone. Being earnestly devoted to his profession, Mr. Brownback early attracted public attention, and in November, 1889, was elected to the position of district attorney for a term of three years. His official duties were carefully and conscientiously discharged. He is now solicitor for the sheriff and register of Montgomery county, and has a large general practice.

On July 2, 1890, Mr. Brownback was united by marriage to Augustine Marguerite, a daughter of Prof. T. S. C. Lowe, late of Norristown, but now a resident of Southern California. Prof. Lowe has been largely interested in railway construction and is a progressive man of wealth. To Mr. and Mrs. Brownback have been born two sons: Henry Lowe and Russel James.

In political faith Mr. Brownback is an enthusiastic Republican and a firm believer in the policy of protection to American industries. Ever since his admittance to the bar he has taken an active interest in local politics and is regarded among the best posted leaders of political thought. In addition to his law practice at Norristown, where he has resided since 1890, he is also financially interested in the March-Brownback stove company, of Pottstown, and is a director of the Montgomery Insurance Trust and Safe Deposit company, of Norristown, Pennsylvania.

FREELAND G. HOBSON is an attorney in active practice at the Montgomery county bar; the treasurer and trust

officer of the Norristown Title, Trust and Safe Deposit company; and an active and enterprising business man. He has a State wide reputation as a member of the Patriotic Order Sons of America, having been for years very prominent in its councils, and having served as State president in 1894. He was born at Collegeville, Montgomery county, on October 13, 1857. He is a son of Frank M. and Lizzie (Gotwalts) Hobson. A complete sketch of his father, who is still living, appears on page seventy of this work.

Mr. Hobson is of English ancestry on his paternal side, the immigrant ancestor being Francis Hobson, who came from England in 1720, and located in New Garden township, Chester county, with his wife and family. They were of the Society of Friends and were among the earliest settlers of that county. Mr. Hobson was a farmer. His son Francis came to Limerick township, Montgomery county, in 1743, and bought a farm of two hundred and sixty acres, near Royersford, which is still known as the Hobson farm. This ancestor had a family, one of whom, Francis Hobson, inherited the Limerick farm in 1748 and resided there all his life. He was a country justice of the peace and a surveyor, and many of the old surveys of the county were made by him. One of his sons, John Hobson, was the great-grandfather of our subject. He in his turn inherited and worked the Limerick farm, making three generations on this property. A brother, Moses by name, succeeded his father as county surveyor and justice of the peace. John Hobson was the father of four children: Moses; Mary; Charlotte, wife of Homer Kimberly, of Batavia, New York; and Francis, grandfather of our subject, who was born October 10, 1803, and died August 4, 1874. He inherited the farm in Limerick township and lived there many years, subsequently removing to Reading, where his widow and several children still reside. He was a soldier in the war of the Rebellion. He married Matilda Bringhurst, and they had two children: Frank M., father of our subject, born January 22, 1830; and Sarah H., who married Rev. Henry W. Super, D. D., ex-president of Ursinus college.

William Bringhurst, father of our subject's grandmother, married Mary Morris, on June 4, 1769, and had two children: Elizabeth, wife of Adam Harkness; and Israel, who was born February 28, 1770, and died February, 1807. Israel Bringhurst had a family of eight children, among whom was Wright A. Bringhurst, who was a member of the State legislature and became a man of considerable note. At his death he bequeathed $200,000 for the support of the destitute poor of Norristown, Pottstown, and Upper Providence township. The bequest was apportioned according to the population of each district. He died in 1876. His sister Matilda married Francis Hobson as above stated. Through the mother of Israel Bringhurst our subject is a descendant of Jenkin Jenkins, who was born in Wales, in 1659, and came to this country in 1729 and located in Gwynedd.

Through the maternal line Mr. Hobson is descended from the Vanderslice, Gotwalts, Hunsicker and Pennypacker families. His mother was Lizzie Gotwalts, a daughter of Jacob and Esther Gotwalts and a sister of Jacob V. Gotwalts, a prominent Norristown lawyer. Esther Gotwalts, maternal grandmother of our subject, is still living at the advanced age of eighty-five. She was a daughter of Anthony Vanderslice. The Vanderslices at a very early age came from Germany to Pennsylva-

nia and settled in Providence township. Through the same line our subject is also a direct descendant of the Pennypackers, the Hunsickers, and the Kolbs, three old and prominent colonial families.

Freeland G. Hobson, the subject of this sketch, was educated in the public schools of Upper Providence township, and subsequently took a full course in and graduated from Ursinus college in 1876. He then entered the law office of Jacob V. Gotwalts, at that time district attorney of Montgomery county, and was admitted to the bar on October 1, 1880. He immediately opened an office in Norristown, where he soon began to build up a lucrative practice and where he has remained ever since. He is an eloquent pleader, and has been uniformly successful in the trial of cases. He defended Antonio Fredericko, an Italian, who was tried in 1890 for the murder of a fellow countryman. The murder occurred at Conshohocken, and Fredericko was captured at San Francisco. The trial was a most thrilling one, and resulted in the absolute acquittal of the accused. Mr. Hobson received the congratulations of his colleagues for the manner in which he had conducted the defense.

In September, 1888, Mr. Hobson put on foot the movement to organize the Norristown Title, Trust and Safe Deposit company, and solicited most of the stock. He was made its secretary, treasurer, and trust officer. These positions he has held since that time. This institution has rapidly grown in popular favor, and now ranks as one of the most flourishing financial institutions of the county. He is also the founder and publisher of the *Montgomery County Law Reporter*, which is now in its eleventh volume. He is a member of the Montgomery County Historical society, and is the author of the History of Providence Township, and one of the contributors to Colonel Bean's History of Montgomery County, writing much of the township work. He has always taken great interest in public movements, and in 1884 when the Centennial celebration of Montgomery county was celebrated he was chairman of the Executive committee. It was in no small degree owing to his energy that this celebration was such a success. He was editor-in-chief of a beautiful memorial volume commemorating this event.

Mr. Hobson is a leader in the Patriotic Order Sons of America and is a member of Camp 267, at Ironbridge. In August, 1893, he was elected State president at the State convention, held at Chester, Pa. At the conclusion of his term, at Erie, Pa., he was made the happy recipient of a handsome cane made from a piece of the hull of the old flagship *Lawrence*. The presentation was made by Hon. J. F. Dowling, mayor of Erie. He is a prominent member of the Valley Forge Memorial association and is at present treasurer and chairman of its executive committee. He is filling the post of secretary of Riverside cemetery, which was recently organized. He is one of the directors of Ursinus college, Collegeville, Pa., in which he has taken a very active interest.

Mr. Hobson is a Republican but has never sought political office. He is a member of the Trinity Reformed church of Collegeville, and has been an elder for five years. He takes an active part in church work, having served as secretary and treasurer of the Montgomery County Sunday-school association, and as president of the Schuylkill Valley Union of Christian Endeavor. He has been upon the program at two international Christian Endeavor con-

ventions; one at Cleveland, Ohio, in 1894, and again at Boston, in 1895. He has been a delegate to the classes, synods and general synod of the Reformed church in the United States. In all of these bodies he has taken a very active part. He has on several occasions argued some most important appeals in these ecclesiastical judicatories.

On September 15, 1881, Mr. Hobson married Ella M. Hendricks, daughter of Rev. Joseph H. Hendricks, now pastor of Trinity Reformed church at Collegeville. This union has been blessed with three children: Frank H., aged twelve years; Anna Mabel, aged ten years; and Catharine, aged six years.

JACOB V. GOTWALTS, a prominent lawyer and ex-district attorney of Montgomery county, is a son of Jacob and Esther (Vanderslice) Gotwalts, and was born in Lower Providence township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, May 13, 1840. The Gotwalts family is of German descent, and can be traced back in the county to the days of early settlement in the latter part of the seventeenth century. One member of this family was Christian Gotwalts, the paternal grandfather of the subject of this sketch. Christian Gotwalts was a farmer by occupation, and lived and died in this county, where he married and reared an industrious family. His son Jacob Gotwalts (father), followed farming, the chief occupation of his day, and died June 29, 1851, aged forty-eight years. He was a Mennonite in religion and church membership, and a Henry Clay Whig, in politics. Mr. Gotwalts wedwed Esther Vanderslice, who is a daughter of Anthony Vanderslice, and is living, being now in the eighty-fifth year of his age. Mr. and Mrs. Gotwalts had a family of four children of whom two are living: Jacob V., and Elizabeth, wife of Frank M. Hobson, a resident of Collegeville and a trustee and the secretary of Ursinus college.

Jacob V. Gotwalts, was reared on the home farm until he was ten years of age, at which time his father's death occurred. He was then sent to Freeland seminary where he fitted for college. Five years later he entered Dickinson college, Carlisle, Pennsylvania, from which well known institution of learning he was graduated in the class of 1860. Leaving college he became principal of the Cape May high school, of New Jersey, which position he held for some time. He afterwards was a member of the faculty of Treemount seminary for a year or more, and then declined all further offers of educational positions in order to commence the study of law with Hon. George N. Corson, of Norristown. He was admitted to the Montgomery county bar in August, 1867, and immediately commenced practice at Norristown, where he remained until 1895, when he became a member of the law firm of Gotwalts & Saylor, and removed to Pottstown. Mr. Gotwalts does a general law practice, but makes a specialty of criminal law in which he has been very successful. He is a strong Democrat in politics, and for a quarter of a century has been both active and prominent in the political affairs of the county. He served as a councilman and school director of Norristown, of which borough he was also solicitor. He served as district attorney of Montgomery county from 1875 to 1878; was a candidate for the nomination for State senator some time later and has been frequently mentioned as an exceedingly strong and available candidate for congress on the Democratic ticket in his congressional district.

On December 3, 1873, Mr. Gotwalts was united in marriage with Henrietta Royer, whose father, the late Dr. Lewis Royer, served with credit and ability in the State senate of Pennsylvania.

Mr. Gotwalts is a man of fine personal appearance, and occupies a front rank in the practice of his profession. He is now a law partner of Hon. Henry D. Saylor, of Pottstown. Mr. Gotwalts is a prominent Mason, being a member of Phœnix Lodge, No. 75, Free and Accepted Masons.

JOSEPH Y. BECHTEL, M. D., who has been in active practice at Schwenksville for thirty-nine years, is a son of John and Catharine (Yost) Bechtel, and was born in a part of Pottstown, then in Pottsgrove township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, March 25, 1832. The lineage of his family is traced back authentically to John George Bechtel of Germany, who left his native land in 1728, as one of a colony of emigrants of the Reformed church faith. He came on the ship *Mortonhouse*, John Coultas, master, which weighed anchor at Diehl, June 15, 1728, and arrived at Philadelphia, August 24, the same year. Mr. Bechtel settled near the site of Pottstown, where he bought a farm. Some years afterwards, upon the death of his father, he returned to Germany in order to obtain his share of the paternal estate, and died on his return voyage, while the vessel was along the coast of one of the Carolinas. His widow, whose maiden name was Anna Mary Clingman, remained on the farm and reared their two children, George and Catharine, the latter of whom wedded Samuel Landis.

George Bechtel was born and always resided on the home farm, on which he died April 29, 1818, at seventy-three years of age. He was a farmer and a member of the Reformed church, and married Hannah Schwinhart, by whom he had seven sons and four daughters. The sons were: David, George, William, Jacob, Peter, Colonel John and Samuel. The daughters were: Mary, wife of Conrad Carver; Elizabeth, who wedded Jacob Harner; Hannah, wife of Matthias Gilbert; and Catharine, who married John Yocum. Colonel John Bechtel, third in descent from John George Bechtel, was born November 4, 1793, and died July 3, 1877. He followed milling for a few years and then rented a hotel below Pottstown, which he ran for some time. He then owned and tilled a farm of seventy acres near Sanatoga station, afterwards removed to Allentown, and shortly before his death, came to his son, the subject of this sketch, to be treated for dropsy, which proved fatal in his case. He served at sixteen years of age in the War of 1812, was a colonel of a militia regiment afterwards, and served from 1838 to 1841, as county commissioner. He was a life long Democrat, and a consistent member of the Reformed church. He married Catharine Yost, and to their union were born five sons and two daughters: Jeremiah, John, Mary, Loomis, Washington, Jacob, Lovinia Haas and Dr. Joseph Y. Mrs. Bechtel was a daughter of John Yost, an extensive farmer of near Pottstown. She died May 14, 1863, aged sixty-nine years.

Dr. Joseph Y. Bechtel was reared on the farm, received his education in the common schools and Pottstown academy, and taught for three years, being one of the first free school teachers in Pottsgrove township. He quit teaching in 1854, to read medicine with Dr. G. W. Wimley, of Limerick, and

afterwards entered the Pennsylvania Medical college, from which he was graduated in March, 1856. He immediately opened an office at Birdsboro, Berks county, but on October 20, 1856, came to Schwenksville, then but a small village. He soon acquired a large practice, which he held for thirty-five years, but for the last four years, owing to failing health, has been obliged to curtail his professional business. In the zenith of his professional career he was frequently called to treat patients ten to twelve miles away. Dr. Bechtel is a Democrat, and served as postmaster of Schwenksville from 1885 to 1889, his oldest son, Allen K. Bechtel, officiating as assistant postmaster. He is a member of the Reformed church, served one term in 1892 as physician to the Montgomery County Home, but declined a re-appointment. He was appointed as an assistant surgeon during the late Civil war, but resigned.

On October 21, 1858, Dr. Bechtel wedded Margaret Koons, a daughter of James Koons, a farmer of Perkiomen township, and a zealous member of Trappe Reformed church. To Dr. and Mrs. Bechtel have been born four children: Allen K., a graduate of the National Institute of Pharmacy, Chicago, who died July 10, 1893, aged thirty years; Laura, wife of the Rev. Silas L. Messinger, pastor of Pleasantville Reformed church, at Eureka, Bucks county; John, a clerk in his father's drug store; and M. Evelyn, a graduate of Ursinus college, class of 1895.

B. PERCY CHAIN, a lawyer of the Norristown bar, is the only son of Benjamin E. and Louisa B. Chain, and was born at Norristown, Pennsylvania, December 22, 1858. The family was established in America by John Chain, the elder, who during the eighteenth century crossed the Atlantic, and finally settled on the west bank of Stony creek, in what is now West Norristown, Montgomery county. Here on September 5, 1770, he purchased of Mary Norris a farm of one hundred and seventy-six acres, including the ground on which the greater part of West Norristown is now located. A part of this property is still in possession of his descendants. His son, Matthew Chain, paternal great-grandfather of the subject of this sketch, succeeded his father by last will in the ownership of the farm. He married, and reared two children, one of whom was John Chain (grandfather), who was born December 16, 1781, grew to manhood, and lived on the old homestead during all of his life. Like his progenitors, John Chain devoted his life to agricultural pursuits, and died in Norristown, April 9, 1829. He married, October 24, 1808, Ann Evans, a sister of Benjamin Evans, one of the early and eminent lawyers of this county, and a descendant of the founders of Evansburg, in Lower Providence township. They had a family of five children: Eleanor, who died unmarried; Hannah, who married Jno. S. McFarland, Esq., of the Montgomery county bar, both of whom are long since dead, leaving no children; James; Mark; and Benjamin E. James and Mark had no children. Benjamin E. Chain (father) was born at Norristown, Pennsylvania, October 15, 1823, and educated at the Norristown academy, Lawrenceville (New Jersey) seminary, and Washington and Jefferson college, Cannonsburg, Pennsylvania, from which latter institution he was graduated in 1842. After graduation he read law one year with the late Gilbert Rodman Fox, Esq., of Norris-

town, and completed his preparation for the bar under Hon. James M. Porter, of Easton. He was admitted to the bar in November, 1844, and began practice at Norristown. In 1850 he was elected district attorney, being the first to fill that office by a vote of the people. He was connected as counsel with a number of noted cases, had a large practice in the Orphans' court, and continued the active duties of his profession until his death, March 28, 1893, when in the seventieth year of his age. In politics, he was a Jacksonian Democrat, and during the early part of his career took an active part in political affairs, though in later life he devoted his attention to business. He was one of the originators and a director in the First National bank of Norristown, and served as vice-president and solicitor of the Montgomery Insurance Trust and Safe Deposit company. He also served as the first president of the Norristown Gas company, and was interested in a number of other enterprises. During Lee's invasion of Pennsylvania he served as a member of the emergency corps. He was a life-long friend and the legal adviser of General W. S. Hancock, who was frequently his guest at his home, and did considerable campaign work for the Democracy during the general's candidacy for president in 1880. At his death in 1886 Mr. Chain attended to the details of his final sepulture. In religion he was a member of the Protestant Episcopal church, and for a period of twenty years occupied the position of vestryman and senior warden in St. John's church at Norristown. In 1845 he married Louisa Bean, a daughter of John Bean, of Norristown, then recently deceased, and by that union had four children. Two died in infancy and two survive: one, a daughter named Mary C., married Francis D. Farnum, now deceased, who was a prominent cotton manufacturer of Norristown; and the other, B. Percy, the subject of this sketch, is the last of the male descendants of this branch of the Chain family.

B. Percy Chain grew to manhood in his native borough of Norristown and received a liberal education at Treemount seminary and Lafayette college. He studied law with his father, and was admitted to the bar of Montgomery county in 1884. He at once began the practice of his profession, in which he has been continuously engaged to the present time. In addition to his law practice Mr. Chain is interested in business and other enterprises in and around Norristown. He is a director in the Montgomery Insurance Trust and Safe Deposit company.

On August 30, 1893, Mr. Chain was wedded to Bessie Brooke, youngest daughter of Lewis T. Brooke, of the firm of Lewis T. Brooke & Son, real estate dealers, of the city of Philadelphia. Politically Mr. Chain is an advocate of Democracy, though he takes little active part in politics. He is a member and vestryman of St. John's Episcopal church, Norristown, and is also connected with a number of social and musical organizations in the borough, among them being the Ersine Tennis club, of which he was one of the incorporators and a director. He and Mrs. Chain are both very popular socially, and their home is at the south corner of Jacoby and Arch streets.

EUGENE DAMBLY, business manager of the Skippack *Transcript* and the German *Der Neutralist*, is a man of practical

knowledge of his business. He is one of the youngest newspaper men in the interior of the State, and his success is rather due to hard work and ambition than to educational advantages. His may be said to be a newspaper family, for his father was the editor and publisher of a newspaper, and three of his brothers are or were engaged in the same business.

Mr. Dambly comes of an ancient family. His ancestors were residents of France and traces of the family are found as far back as the year 1112. In those days and up to the time of the French Revolution they were a powerful family, but at that time they, with many others, were driven into exile and their estates confiscated. They subsequently found a refuge in Germany.

Mr. Dambly's paternal grandfather was Dr. August Ernst Dambly, a veterinary surgeon, who was born and lived at Ludwigsburg, Germany. He was connected with the German army in his professional capacity. He was married to Hannah Snyder, and they had six children: Bertha, now Mrs. E. V. Sowville, of Chicago, Ill.; Louisa, now Mrs. George Kessler, of Philadelphia, Pa.; Marie Dambly, of Philadelphia, Pa.; August Ernst, Alexander and Harry.

August Ernst Dambly was the father of the subject of this sketch. He was born at Ludwigsburg, Wurtemberg, Germany, November 11, 1839, and came to this country with his widowed mother when he was but ten years of age. His mother died shortly after their arrival in this country, and being without friends or relatives in America, he was thrown upon his own resources. When he was less than fifteen years of age he apprenticed himself to a publisher of a German paper at Doylestown, Pa., where he learned his trade. After serving his apprenticeship he connected himself with the German *Neutralist*, published at Skippack, Pa., and by dint of hard work and close application became manager and finally, in 1862, became proprietor. He continued in the business up to the time of his death, December 19, 1885. He was editor of the only German Republican paper in his county and was widely known as an able German writer, and a warm exponent of the Republican principles. Few politicians in the county enjoyed a wider and more favorable acquaintance among his own and other parties. He was a member of the Skippack church and a trustee, also secretary of the Sunday school. He was a member of Warren Lodge, No. 310, F. and A. M.; Providence Lodge, No. 345, I. O. O. F., of Kulpsville; Knights of Pythias, at Zieglerville, and of the Knights of the Mystic Chain, at Centre Square. He was married to Rosa Witman, of Reading, Pa., on August 17, 1862, and they had eight children: John A., B. Witman, Eugene; Grace, now Mrs. J. B. Frank, of Norristown; Harry, Rosa, Hannah and Clara.

Mr. Dambly, the subject of this sketch, was born at Skippack, on August 15, 1868. When he arrived at a proper age he was sent to public school and remained until he was fifteen years of age. He then entered his father's printing establishment and learned the trade. Two years later his father died, when his brother and he took charge of the business and conducted it for their mother. In 1888 they established the English *Montgomery Transcript*, which has since become one of the widely read and influential Republican weeklies in the county. In 1890 the Damblys purchased the weekly Harleysville *News*, and the subject of this sketch successfully managed that paper for about two years, when it was sold out to I. R. Haldeman. He returned to Skippack again

T. Reading.

and has since been devoting his time to the newspaper business. He is a Republican in politics. Mr. Dambly is a member of Trinity Reformed church of Skippack and a trustee of the church. He is a member of Providence Lodge, No. 345, I. O. O. F., of Kulpsville; Harmony Grange, No. 891, Patrons of Husbandry, of Creamery; Harleysville Beneficial Association and other organizations.

Mr. Dambly is a married man. On February 21, 1894, he was united to Mattie, daughter of the Rev. S. M. K. Huber, of Skippack.

DR. THOMAS READING was born at Hatboro, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, November 3, 1864. He is a descendant of a long line of American ancestry. He is the son of Dr. Edward and Jane Bonsal Willard Reading. His grandparents on the paternal side were Thomas and Maria Reading. The former was born at Paper Mill village, near Hatboro, was an earnest member of the Methodist church and a successful farmer and merchant; the latter a native of Bucks county. His great-grandparents on the paternal side were William and Ruth Reading, both natives of New Jersey, who came to this State and settled in this county. Maria Reading, his grandmother, was a descendant of the old and well known family of Vandykes, formerly of Bucks county.

His grandparents on the maternal side were Lewis R. and Ellen Willard. Lewis R. Willard was born near Hulmeville, Bucks county, Pennsylvania, and belongs to the large, prominent and much respected family of that name, scattered over the two counties. His brother Thomas is residing on the old homestead, "Millbrook." Ellen Willard was born in Philadelphia, and after marriage resided there for a number of years, but subsequently moved to Moreland township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania. She was a descendant of the Twaddle and Bonsal families, who were prominent in the early history of Philadelphia, and continue to enjoy a distinguished position.

Dr. Edward Reading was born in Somerton, Philadelphia January 3, 1829. After a liberal academic education he commenced his medical studies in Hahnemann Medical college, Philadelphia, and graduated in the year 1853. He located in Hatboro, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, as a pioneer of homœopathy, , and succeeded at once to build up a large and lucrative practice, which he retained until his death. He had brilliant attainments, highest conception of public and private purity and integrity and a mind well stored with useful knowledge, gained by research and experience. He was a member of several medical societies and was very prominent in the Masonic order. He was one of the charter members of the W. K. Bray Lodge, No. 410, F. and A. M., located at Hatboro, Pennsylvania, and its first worshiptul master. He was an earnest, active and devout member of the Methodist church and very prominent in all the affairs concerning the advancement of the borough.

On February 14, 1856, he was married to Jane Bonsal Willard. She was born in Philadelphia and spent her early life in that city, but a few years previous to this her father moved to Montgomery county, near Hatboro, and at this place, "Pennell Plantation," she was married. The following children blessed this union: Estelle, born March 19, 1857, now the wife of Thomas

E. Paxson, of Hatboro; Dr. Lewis Willard, born January 9, 1859, who graduated from the Hahnemann Medical college March, 1880, and practiced his profession for seven years in Hatboro, but moved to Philadelphia in 1887, where he is now located, and Dr. Thomas Reading, the subject of our sketch.

Dr. Thomas Reading commenced his early education in the borough schools and subsequently attended the Millersville State Normal school, from which he graduated with distinction. After a few months rest from his studies he started forth in life by entering a large mercantile house in Philadelphia. Although he was successful, the confinement was not agreeable and healthful and competition was so great that through his own judgment and the persuasion of his father and brother he entered the Hahnemann Medical college, October, 1885, and graduated in March, 1888. Immediately after leaving college he, by his high average, was successful in becoming the resident physican and surgeon of the Homeopathic hospital, Pittsburgh, Penna. After remaining here a year he was suddenly called home by the death of his father, and immediately entered upon the duties of his profession by becoming his father's successor; but by doing this he was obliged to relinquish his fond hopes and plans of finishing his medical education abroad in the large hospitals and colleges of Vienna, Berlin, Heidelberg, etc.

His hospital practice while at Pittsburgh was of vast importance to him in his early practice. It gave him experience that it would have taken years to acquire in private practice, and it is due to this that his success has been so phenomenal.

He has by his ability, skill, energy, genial qualities and personal magnetism drawn unto himself a large patronage, consisting of the most intelligent and best families of this and surrounding counties. There are not many physicians of the same period in practice who enjoy such a large and lucrative practice.

But with such demands upon his time, such a rich harvest to reap and glean, yet he is very active in several medical societies, being a member of the Allegheny County Medical society, Pennsylvania State Medical society, Germantown Homeopathic Medical society and the American Institute of Homeopathy.

He is a member of the W. K. Bray Lodge, No. 410, Free and Accepted Ancient York Masons, and its present worshiptul master, also belonging to the T. B. Freeman Chapter, No. 243, of Philadelphia.

On November 17, 1893, Dr. Reading married Ellen, daughter of C. S. and Ellen Ahl Stayman, of Carlisle, Pa., granddaughter of Cary W. and Catharine Ahl, of Cumberland Valley, Pa.

HENRY R. GABLE, member of the large general store firm of Smith & Gable, at Salfordville, is a native of Montgomery county, and is descended from many generations of Montgomery county residents. The family gets its origin in Germany, but back so many generations that it is right to say he is of strictly American ancestry. He is a business man of recognized ability and the firm has been very successful during all its long career. Mr. Gable was born and reared in Salfordville. He is a son of Charles and Mary (Ratzel) Gable, and was born October 13, 1837. Philip Gable, his grandfather, was a well known farmer and hotel keeper in Upper Salford township.

He also kept a large general store and was an important business man in that vicinity. He was an adherent to the principles of the Democratic party, and was an active member of the Lutheran church. He married Mary Snyder and seven children came to bless their wedded life: Charles, Philip, Jessie, Esther, Sallie, Elizabeth and Catharine. He died in 1835.

Charles Gable, father of the gentleman whose name heads this sketch, was born on his father's farm in Upper Salford township, on the 11th of April, 1799. He had a common school education, and followed farming all his life and made money. He worked for and voted the Democratic ticket, and was a very active member of the Lutheran church. In fact, he was one of the most prominent members of the congregation, and at one time or other held all of the offices in the church. He married Mary, daughter of Jacob Ratzel, on February 15, 1824, and eight children were born to them: Philip, deceased; Mary, intermarried with Henry Snyder; Kate, wife of Henry Barnes; Levinia, wife of William Smith; Sarah, married to John Gerhart; Henry R., Charles, who is dead, and Jessie. He died March 29, 1863.

After attending the common schools of Salfordville until he was sixteen years old, Henry R. Gable secured a position as clerk in the grocery store of Thomas H. Hamburger, Philadelphia, where he remained for ten years. He then returned to Montgomery county and took to farming, which occupation he followed until 1882. In that year he became associated with his brother-in-law, Augustus H. Smith, as a partner in a large general store, and the firm still continues increasing their business every year and making money. Both men are of the strictest honesty and of broad gauge in business methods and the firm has always been very popular. Mr. Gable is a Democrat but takes very little interest in politics and never aspired to be an office holder.

On March 6, 1864, Mr. Gable and Kate A., daughter of Frederick Smith, and sister of his partner, were married and they have had a very happy wedded life. Only two children have been born to them: Jacob, who is still living, keeps the Salfordville hotel; and Harry, who died at the age of two years. The family belongs to the Lutheran church, and Mr. Gable is an earnest worker, having been a deacon, trustee and an elder respectively, and holding each position a number of years.

BENJAMIN THOMAS, a prominent citizen and business man of Bridgeport, this county, is a son of Thomas and Susannah (Fryer) Thomas, and was born February 28, 1838, in Upper Merion township, this county.

The Thomas family, as the name indicates, is of Welsh origin, the original American progenitor being William Thomas, who came from Wales to this country in the early part of the eighteenth century and located at Philadelphia. The later generations of his descent, however, have settled chiefly in Chester county.

Thomas Thomas, father of Benjamin Thomas, formerly an old-time teacher, surveyor and conveyancer, and latterly and at the time of his death engaged in the wholesale coal business at Bridgeport, was a son of Benjamin and Abigail (Powell) Thomas, and was born December 24, 1805, in Charlestown township, Chester county, Pennsylvania. He received such educational training in the then ordinary schools

of his native township, as fitted him to teach successfully in the old subscription and the common schools of that day. In connection with his teaching he followed surveying and conveyancing for many years. In 1830, he came to Norristown, where he taught in the public schools of of that borough and vicinity for a number of years. While here engaged in teaching he married, and soon after located in the wholesale coal business at Bridgeport, in which he continued successfully up to his death, March 30, 1886, at the age of eighty-one years. In 1836 he married Susannah Fryer, a daughter of William and Catherine Fryer, who was born July 15, 1813, and is still living, and in the enjoyment of health. Mr. Thomas' marital union was blessed with five sons and one daughter: Benjamin; William F.; Charles S.; George W. H., deceased; John W.; and Mary E. A.; all of whom are still living except George W. H., who died November 22, 1891, and who was at the time of his death extensively engaged in the real estate, conveyancing and insurance business at Bridgeport.

Benjamin Thomas was born and reared to manhood in Upper Merion township, Montgomery county, and received a limited scholastic training in the district schools of his native township by irregular attendance up to fourteen years of age, when he gave up the employment of school to take up more practical pursuits, and accordingly accepted a clerkship in the book and stationery store of Franklin D. Sower, at Norristown. After remaining here for some time, he engaged himself with the firm of Ezekiel Potts & Co., at Bridgeport, and learned the trade of machinist, which he followed for a period of twelve years in various localities, and at the expiration of which time he associated himself with his father in the wholesale coal business at Bridgeport, and continued in this business relation up to his father's death. Upon the death of his father in 1886, he succeeded to the sole proprietorship of the business and has so continued ever since. By industry, vigilance and fair dealing he has established an extensive and profitable trade, extending over a radius of about twenty miles.

In November of 1891, upon the death of his brother, George W. H., he succeeded him in the discharge of his extensive real estate, conveyancing, and insurance business, which he has carried on ever since. Besides these varied and absorbing business interests, he has been prominently identified with most of the local industrial enterprises of Bridgeport for twenty-five years. He was one of the projectors and chief promoters of the Fame Building and Loan association of Bridgeport, organized 1871, and has served as its secretary ever since its organization. He has also been a director for the past five years in the Montgomery National bank of Norristown. While Mr. Thomas has been thus active and potent in civil and industrial enterprise, he has likewise manifested the same interest in secret and benevolent organizations. He is a member of Charity Lodge No. 190, Free and Accepted Masons; Norristown Chapter No. 190, H. R. A. M.; Hutchinson Commandery, No. 32, Knights Templar; Norris Lodge, No. 130, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and numerous other similar societies and organizations. Mr. Thomas has kept up the religious traditions of the family in their strict adherence to the Episcopal church in religious faith, having served as a vestryman of Christ (Swedes') church, Upper Merion,

for eighteen years, and is also at present serving as one of its wardens and treasurer. Politically, Mr. Thomas is a staunch Republican and always takes a lively interest in the success of the party in all matters politic, local, State, and national. He has always stood prominent in the councils of the local politics of the party, having served successfully as school director, councilman, and for a number of terms treasurer of the borough of Bridgeport; and in 1887 was elected recorder of deeds of Montgomery county, in which capacity he served with credit to himself and to the entire satisfaction of his constituency up to January 1, 1891.

On October 18, 1871, Mr. Thomas married Mary Elizabeth, a daughter of Thomas and Catherine Van Horn, of Bucks county, Pennsylvania.

Mr. Thomas has always been in the front rank in support of the various movements of enterprise inaugurated for the benefit of his town and vicinity, and has probably contributed as much toward the enterprise of the borough as any other one man. While thus active and valuable in civil and industrial movements he has been equally conspicuous fraternally and religiously, being always found in support of all worthy charitable and philanthropic movements brought forward by the church and other organizations of which he is a member.

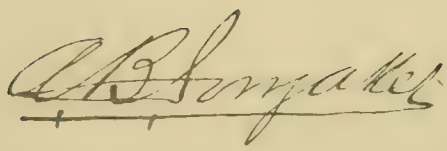
JOHN J. HOUGHTON, an organizer and the cashier of the First National bank of Ambler since its establishment, in 1884, is the eldest son and second child of Dr. Jesse N. and Emily (Janney) Houghton, and was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, September 7, 1862. The Houghtons are of English Puritan stock, and their first American ancestors came to Massachusetts Bay colony some twenty years after its founding in 1630. The Rev. Jesse Houghton was a prominent man in his New England community a century later, and served as chaplain in the Revolutionary war. His son, Rev. Jesse Houghton, jr., was a Baptist clergyman at Dedham, Massachusetts, where he operated a cabinet making shop and married Mary Chase, by whom he had seven children: Dr. Jesse H., Dr. John S., Edwin H., Stanley, Martha, Mary, and Susan. Mr. Houghton died about 1850, at sixty-five years of age. His eldest son, Dr. Jesse H. Houghton, was born September 1828, and died October 1877. He was reared at Dedham, and Boston, Massachusetts, and after attending Harvard college entered Andover Theological seminary, from which he was graduated at the close of his course. Having changed his mind in regard to a professional life shortly after graduating, he came to Philadelphia, where he took a full course in both the Allopathic and the Homeopathic schools of medicine, and was graduated from the Jefferson and Hahnneman medical colleges. After completing his medical courses he formed a partnership with his brother, Dr. John S. Houghton, of Philadelphia. They made a specialty of nervous diseases, were the founders of the Howard hospital, and organized numerous field hospitals during the Civil war. In 1874, Dr. Jesse H. Houghton removed from Philadelphia to Norristown, where he lived in retirement for the three remaining years of his life. Dr. Houghton was a Republican and a Congregationalist and always took an active part in all reform movements. In October 1860, he married Emily Janney, a native of Philadelphia, and a daughter Israel Janney. To their union

were born five children: Elizabeth, John J.; Henry J. (deceased), Emily J., and Anna M., who died in 1870, in infancy.

John J. Houghton was reared in Philadelphia and Norristown, received his education from private instruction by his father, and in the Norristown public schools, and then in 1877 he entered the employ of F. D. Sower, a book seller of Norristown, with whom he remained up to 1881. In that year he became teller and book-keeper in the banking house of J. M. Albertson & Sons, and three years later helped to organize the First National bank of Ambler, of which he was elected and has served as cashier ever since. After coming to Ambler Mr. Houghton became interested in its improvement and progress, was one of the organizers of its improvement company, and has done much individually to build up the eastern part of the borough in which he now owns considerable valuable property. He has been very successful in financial and business life. He is a Republican in politics, and has served as a member of Fort Washington Lodge, No. 308, Free and Accepted Masons, and Hutchinson Commandery, Knights Templar of Norristown.

On October 20, 1891, John J. Houghton, married Mary P. Thomas, a daughter of Elliott Thomas, and their union has been blessed with one child, a daughter named Dorothy.

HON. A. BROWER LONGAKER was born in Lower Providence township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, on the 28th day of April, A. D. 1828. He and his twin sister Elizabeth were the seventh by birth in a family of eleven children, seven sons and four daughters. Elizabeth died when sixteen days old. His father and mother were Henry and Catharine (Brower) Longaker, a sketch of whom and their ancestry are found in another part of this volume. He was named after his maternal uncle, the Hon. Abraham Brower. His early schooling was had at the public school near his birthplace, known as "The Level" schoolhouse. In 1841, by the change of residence of his parents, he became a day pupil of the Washington Hall academy at the Trappe, where he prosecuted his studies until the autumn of 1847, at which time he entered the Sophomore class of Franklin and Marshall college, then located at Mercersburg, Franklin county, but now located at Lancaster. At the conclusion of the Sophomore year he entered the Junior class of Union college, Schenectady, N. Y., and graduated from that institution in the class of 1850. His scholarship was maximum in all studies. He was one of the ten class orators selected out of a class of about eighty, and was one of about one-third of the class who were entitled to admission in the Phi Beta Kappa fraternity. While prosecuting his studies in the academy he taught in the public schools during the winters of 1845 and 1846, and after graduation he taught during the school terms of 1850 to 1851 and 1851 to 1852 in the public schools of Philadelphia. As a teacher he was energetic and progressive, apt in imparting what he knew, devoted to the advancement of his pupils, a great lover of children, a mild but stern disciplinarian, ruling by merit and punishing the laggard and disobedient by marks of demerit. Very early he discarded the rod, and was ever afterwards an inexorable foe to corporal punishment in the schools. In his own household, where the



rod was sparingly used, he would say the infliction of the punishment hurt his feelings more than it did the body of the child.

In college, besides the regular classical course, he took the special courses of medicine and law, and while teaching at Bridesburg in Philadelphia he devoted his leisure hours to the reading of medicine with Dr. Wiley, and the compounding of medicines and preparation of prescriptions in the Doctor's drug store. In the meantime, while spending his vacations at home, he studiously read Blackstone, Kent, and works on international law. In the autumn of 1852 he was fully prepared to enter the medical department of the Pennsylvania University, and at the opening of the term his brother Henry D. and he entered that institution. After the expiration of the third week it became necessary for the students to matriculate, and vacillating between adopting the profession of medicine and law, and, in order to gratify the wishes of his father he changed from medicine to law. He therefore went directly from the University to Balston Spa, N. Y., and entered the State and National Law school, which occupied the *San Souci*, a building which was famous when the Spa was a favorite summer health resort. This institution contained about eighty students coming from New York State, and many of the different States of the Union. In January, 1853, the law school was located at Poughkeepsie, abandoning the *San Souci*, because of the severity of the cold of winter, the buildings having been erected only as a summer resort. In July, 1853, he graduated, receiving the degree of Bachelor of Law, and having studied the code of New York State, was entitled to admission to the courts of that State. He was desirous, however, of obtaining early admission to practice in his own State, and consequently entered at Easton, Pa., the law school of the Hon. Washington McCartney, president judge of the courts of Lehigh and Northampton counties, and on the 19th day of August, A. D. 1853, was admitted to practice in the several courts of Northampton county. He soon thereafter located at Norristown and was admitted to practice in the courts of his native county. About the time of his admission he purchased from Israel Thomas, Esq., who retired on account of ill health, his law library and good will in practice, and thus obtained a clientage by which he was introduced at once prominently to a varied and lucrative practice. In 1855 he represented Montgomery county as a delegate in the Democratic State convention. In the same year he was elected a member of the Pennsylvania house of representatives and re-elected in the years 1856 and 1857, serving during the sessions of 1856, 1857 and 1858. In 1858 he was elected speaker of the house, and in October of the same year was appointed notary public for a term of three years. In 1861 he was elected secretary of the Pennsylvania State Agricultural society, and was re-elected annually thereafter until January, 1869, when he declined by reason of his incumbency as president judge of the third judicial district.

He was also elected a director of the bank of Montgomery county, and was re-elected annually until 1869, when he removed from Norristown to Allentown to enter upon his judicial term.

In March, 1867, he was appointed and confirmed collector in the fifth congressional revenue district, which office he resigned on account of the judgeship, to take effect December 1, 1868.

He was one of the sergeants in the independent cavalry company of State militia, organized September 13, 1862, for the emergency service, and a private in Company H, Captain B. Markley Boyer, mustered in July 1, 1863. Upon the organization of the Forty-first regiment of emergency militia he was elected regimental quartermaster, and mustered into the service of the United States to "serve during the pleasure of the president or the continuance of the war." This regiment marched forthwith to the Cumberland valley and became one of the five lying beyond Chambersburg which formed the brigade under command of Colonel James Nagle, acting brigadier. While Colonel James Nagle was acting as brigade commander Mr. Longaker became the acting commissary of the brigade, division of General Couch, department of the Susquehanna. This position he held until the brigade was dissolved and the emergency men discharged.

In October, 1868, he was elected president judge of the third judicial district, composed of the counties of Lehigh and Northampton, for a term of ten years. After his vacation of the bench in 1878, he resumed the practice of law in Allentown, where he had resided as judge; from 1884 to 1888 he spent the winter months in Florida, and in 1889 located at Easton, and in May, 1893, returned to his native county, where he resumed practice at Norristown.

In his boyhood Judge Longaker very early manifested a disposition to be a leader amongst his companions in their neighborhood sports and school diversions, and was dubbed "captain" because he would frequently form his playmates into a company for "playing soldier." He was an apt scholar, and at the age of thirteen had learned most of what was taught in the public schools. He then became a pupil at the Washington Hall academy, where he studied Latin, Greek, and some of the higher mathematics, and in the autumn of 1847 was fully prepared to enter the Sophomore class in college.

At Union college he was a member of the Philomathean literary society and a member of the A. O. (*Ouden Adalon*) fraternity, which has since been merged into Delta Upsilon. In the performing of all literary exercises he was punctual, and as a member of the moot senate and house of representatives, which met weekly for the discussion of political questions, and whose proceedings were conducted, as far as practicable, according to the rules of parliamentary bodies, he exhibited an interest that the future worked into actuality. While a pupil at the academy he was a ready writer of compositions and a fluent debater, not only with the pupils but with the members of the local societies which met for debate in the neighboring school houses, and although a mere youthful stripling, he was often pitted against the older and more experienced in these contests. This fondness for debate and composition enabled him to hold first rank amongst his college mates in all literary contests, and in after life this served him well in his profession, in his political campaigns and in the discharge of legislative duties. After his admission to the bar his forensic efforts soon placed him in the front amongst the younger members, and his varied practice to which he succeeded from the clientage of Mr. Thomas, gave him opportunity to appear in court and to be recognized as apt and well read in the law. From the inception of his practice to his elevation to the bench he en-

joyed a reputation and obtained a clientage attained only by the few.

During the legislative session in 1856, as a member of the judiciary, and in 1857, chairman of the committee on corporations, as well a member of the judiciary, he was one of the active and leading members of the House. Ardent and able as a debater, well versed in parliamentary rules and an expert tactician, he maintained a well deserved prominence amongst the members.

At the special session of October 5, 1857, convened to legalize the suspension of specie payments of State banks, he was appointed a member of the special committee of thirteen, to whom was referred the Governor's message, and all bills relative to "suspension with instructions to report upon the same by bill or otherwise." He was subsequently appointed chairman of the committee of conference upon the differences between the two houses upon Senate bill No. 1, providing for the resumption of specie payments, etc., and made report to the house, of the bill agreed to by the committees of conference, which bill was adopted, and signed by the governor, legalizing the suspension of the banks.

During the session of 1857, pending the consideration of the bill proposing to sell the main line of the public improvements, he labored earnestly to secure a fair bill open alike to all bidders, and to secure a greater minimum price than the one fixed by the bill. He was not opposed to the policy of a sale, but was opposed to many of the provisions of the bill. The bill, among other things, provided in the third section that "if the Pennsylvania company shall become the purchasers, they shall pay, in addition to the purchase money at which it may be struck down, the sum of $1,500, in consideration whereof, the said railroad company, and the Harrisburg railroad company, shall be discharged forever from the payment of all tonnage taxes, and all other taxes whatever, except for school, city, borough and township purposes." It was argued and contended that the legislature could not alienate any of the rights of sovereignty so as to bind future legislatures not to lay taxes. To admit the right to exercise such power by contract would introduce a policy by which the life of the State might be endangered, because, if carried to its full extent, all revenues by the power of taxation might be bartered away, and the State rendered powerless to meet its ordinary expenditures. Besides, the constitutional mandate is equality of taxation on all classes of subjects as nearly as may be practicable, and therefore, the proviso was contrary to public policy, as well as unconstitutional. The bill passed under proviso. The canal commissioners, by the advice and at the suggestion of those who had opposed this section of the bill, Messrs. Buckalew, Heist, Walton and Meredith, appearing as their attorneys, filed three bills in equity, to restrain the sale, etc, reported in 30 Pa., page 9, wherein the Supreme court says that any contract to effect an exemption from taxation would be void, and that the rights of sovereignty are a trust to be exercised for the benefit of the people, as occasion may require, not to be abandoned or bargained away at the discretion of their agents. The court then decreed that so much of the bill as above recited was void, and enjoined the parties who were to execute the provisions of the act from entering into any contract containing such exemption.

In 1858 he was nominated for and elected speaker, and in a caucus of sixty members, had a majority of forty. Although one or

the youngest speakers who had presided for late years, he was calm, dignified, courteous, impartial and prompt, displaying rare executive ability and great dispatch of business. His rulings were generally accepted without appeal, and in the very few instances in which appeals were taken, they stood as the judgment of the house. No one of his decisions were reversed by the house. Pending the consideration of an important bill, two members called the yeas and nays (the bar of the house having been closed previously) and the clerk recorded fifty members voting. It appeared, however,that the two calling the yeas and nays had not voted. At this time the house was composed of one hundred members. The speaker decided that by the record there was a quorum present, and that it was the duty of the two members who called the yeas and nays, to vote. From this decision an appeal was entered, and a vote being taken, the decision stood as the judgment of the house. On the call of the names of the two members, they still refused to vote. The speaker held that a quorum was present on the question pending, whether or not the non-voting members were in contempt, and ruled that their conduct was decorous to the speaker, but, that their act was in contempt with the rights of the other members of the house. On a submission of this question to a vote of the house, it was decided in the affirmative; this was followed by a motion put and carried, that the non-voting members be ordered under arrest by the speaker, for contempt. Before executing this order, however, the speaker directed that their names again be called, whereupon one of them voted, nay. The clerk then reported that fifty-one members had voted, and the speaker declared that a quorum had voted. The other member still refusing to vote, upon motion made and carried, he was excused from voting. The house then proceeded with the further consideration of the bill.

This incident is produced somewhat in detail because it is probably the first decision on this much vexed question made by a legislative body, and it represents one of the many different phases which it has assumed, when it had been resorted to, not only to obstruct, but at times, to defeat the passage of a bill by the obnoxious conduct of an otherwise impotent minority. It also shows how nearly earlier decisions had preceded, trenched upon, and opened the way for the decision of speaker Reed in the national congress, to count non-voting members, known to be present, so as to record a quorum voting. It seems, however, to be the later and better practice for the speaker to designate the member, and order the clerk to enter the name, so that it may appear by the record, who constitute in fact the quorum, rather than to determine by the arbitrary dictum of the speaker, that the voting and non-voting members present, constitute a quorum.

Judge Longaker had a great fondness for agricultural fairs, and during his secretaryship, he organized, with the aid and advice of his estimable wife, the Household Department, which provided a first and second premium for almost every article produced by the handicraft of the industrious and progressive housewife, and had the committees so enlarged, that ladies, with a gentleman as chairman, were appointed judges to pass upon the entries made in these classes. There was also a Ladies' managing committee, which had charge of this department. This system largely interested the women in the locality in which

the fairs were held annually, resulting in increased attendance, and producing one of the pleasing and useful features of the exhibition. Some of the largest and best fairs occurred during his official term, and in 1869, when he declined a re-election, the society, which was in debt, and insolvent when he assumed control, had in its treasury a substantial surplus and was in a very prosperous condition. The six weeks to two months' time annually devoted to the affairs of each exhibition afforded a very opportune and agreeable outing from professional engagements and gave further opportunity to make many agreeable acquaintances in the different localities in which the fair was held, as well as to refresh those which had been formed during his legislative term.

His duties as president of the bank were to preside at the meetings of the board of directors, keep its minutes, sign the notes issued, etc., but, he was far from devoting his entire time to the bank during banking hours.

On the bench, Judge Longaker was keenly analytical, a good example of whose method is found in Kemmerer *vs.* Tool, 78 Pennsylvania, 149: The question trying was that of an alleged insolvency under the bankrupt act. He said: "Insolvency under this act is not a total inability of one to pay his liabilities for want of assets, but it is that condition financially when he becomes unable to pay his promissory notes and other liabilities generally as they fall due. A failure to meet a note or two, or other indebtedness when due and demanded, is not enough if payment be made within a reasonable time thereafter, but if there be a general failure to pay then the condition of the law is satisfied, and insolvency has occurred, or the debtor may be said to be acting in contemplation of insolvency. A man being a trader may have property sufficient to pay all his debts, and yet if there should be a general failure to pay when due he will by the provisions of the bankrupt act, be insolvent, or acting in contemplation of insolvency. Insolvency is a question of fact, and is not founded upon actual knowledge of the debtor and creditor—a reasonable cause to induce belief is all that is required. * * * * * * Reasonable cause to believe, is that condition of mind produced from facts and circumstances which would put a prudent and careful man upon inquiry as to solvency or insolvency; it is a well founded suspicion based upon facts from which such suspicion will naturally flow; it is a state of mind produced from facts less than actual knowledge, or less than a full conviction of the actual fact."

The cases of Moyer et al. *vs.* the Pennsylvania Slate company, 71 Pa., 294, afford a very forcible type of the analytical comparative and explanatory charge and opinion. The question pending was the alleged individual liability of the stockholders of the defendant corporation, and arose under the clause, "for debts due mechanics, workmen and laborers employed by the company, and *for materials furnished.*" One claimant presented a demand for payment of a bill for hauling slate to the railroad station with his own team; another for repairs of the wagon of the corporation done at his shops and used in transporting the slate; another for lumber furnished to erect a derrick and also claims for oats, hay and straw for the horses and mules of the corporation; for powder, fuse, horse shoes, nails, grease, files, shovels and other quarrying tools, etc.

Commenting upon the words "material furnished," he said: "Material in its ordi-

nary acceptation is the substance out of which anything is made, and this is the only definition given to the noun by Webster. 'Material,' as an adjective, has a much larger signification, but it is of its use as a noun that we seek its import. The ingredients which form a chemical compound are called chemical materials; the substances which enter into the erection of a building are called building materials; cotton and wool used by the manufacturer are materials of which cloth is made. And thus the comparison might be pursued throughout every description of manufactures. * * * * The stockholders of a cotton or woolen manufactory would be liable for cotton or wool, but certainly not for pig-iron, or powder, nor for provender, furnished the mules used in and about the business. * * * Hay in its ordinary acceptation is not a material, but provender, farm produce; if the legislative intent were to protect the farmer for food furnished the horses or mules, the term used would be 'provender' or 'farm produce' and not 'material.' If it were to protect the merchant for wares, goods and commodities (nails, grease, files, shovels and orher tools) in the concrete, the term used would be 'merchandise.' The general manufacturing law of 1854, creating individual liability, uses the phrase 'for machinery, merchandise, country produce, provisions and materials furnished.' * * * * It is sufficient to know that nothing can be manufactured without material, and therefore the legal signification of the phrase 'material furnished' is to be applied to those substances which are used in the manufacture of articles produced, and is not to be enlarged so as to include everything that may fall within the general definition of matter." The Supreme Court directed the opinion to be reported and affirmed the cases on that opinion.

In City of Allentown *vs.* Henry, 73 Pa., 404, he held that while the act of 1868 might be unconstitutional in that provision, wherein it was permitted to lay assessments in nature of water rents upon owners of dwelling houses situated on streets along which the water pipes were laid, yet the subsequent act of 1870 allowing the city to purchase the works and to exercise all the rights, privileges, powers, and franchises of the former corporation, was equivalent to a re-enactment in the new bill, and was, therefore, not unconstitutional when these powers were transferred to a municipal corporation. The vice of this provision in the former enactment was that it is unconstitutional to attempt to confer on a private corporation the right to lay taxes or assessments in the nature of taxes; while municipal corporations may be so empowered, where the local tax is substantially for a local benefit. The act, however, authorized the levy to be made upon every dwelling house located on streets along which pipes had been laid; the ordinance imposed it upon such dwelling houses only as are not supplied with hydrants; it did not follow the statute, and, therefore, it was declared invalid.

The case of Weber *vs.* Reinhard, 73 Pa., 370, raised the constitutionality of the act of April 14, 1868, which allowed the township of Upper Saucon to collect an additional road tax on ore beds of one and one-half cent from the owners of ore beds for every ton mined and carried away by teams over the roads of said township. It was contended that taxes could not be collected by actions for debt with previous assessment, etc., and that the act was unconstitutional because it was levied upon a

few as a local tax for the benefit of the many. It was ruled by the lower court that the tax could be legally collected and that the act was constitutional; this ruling was affirmed by the Supreme Court. (The late Chief Justice Woodward, counsel for the appellant, argued against its constitutionality and denied the power of the courts to collect taxes by actions for debt).

A few years later in the Lehigh Iron Company *vs.* Lower Macungie Iron Company, 81 Pa., 482, the act of 1868, having been extended to Macungie township, by the act of February 25, 1870, it came before the court upon the allegation that the constitution of 1873 abrogated and annulled these acts. The specific contention was that the new constitution, by implication, repealed *per se* all local and special laws, because of the expression in article 9, section 1, that "all taxes shall be levied and collected under general laws." To parry this implication the judge interposed article 3, section 7, which says: "But laws repealing special or local acts may be passed." He further said, "to hold that, there had resulted a repeal of all local and special laws would introduce confusion into the system of tax laws, and many counties and other municipalities, whose laws are special, would find no statute by which taxes could be levied and collected." This ruling was affirmed by the Supreme Court, which further extended the ruling, by declaring it was the duty of the legislature to repeal local and special laws, and to supply them by general laws adequate to meet the exigencies occurring by their repeal.

In re, Lehigh street, Borough of Easton's appeal, 81 Pa., 89, the question arose, whether or not the grantees of lots described as abutting on a street not opened at the time of the grant, but opened thereafter, had the right of damages occasioned by the opening, or did the right remain in the grantor. The opinion proceeded in part: "If (as contended), the Union Burial Ground *vs.* Robinson be taken to be authority still in force, its only value is to create a possibility of reversion in the grantor, which became extinguished the very instant Lehigh street was dedicated to public use. Prior to this dedication no cause of action for damages had arisen; and *eo instante* with the cause of action happened the contingency which vested the fee in the grantees. The incontrovertible fact is that the opening of the street for public use, the right of action for damages, and the vesting of a fee in the grantees to the centre of the street, are simultaneous acts." The petitioners, therefore, are entitled to damages. In affirming this case, Thompson, Chief Justice, says: "This case is fully and properly decided, and for the reasons so well assigned, the decree of the court of quarter sessions is affirmed and the appeal is dismissed."

Boucher's case, in the common pleas of Lehigh county, ruled that the United States revenue act which rendered void and inadmissible in evidence in the State courts instruments of writing not specifically stamped, was inoperative and contrary to public policy as well as unconstitutional, because, if the right to tax the legal writs, in legal procedure and to nullify unstamped written instruments as evidence, be admitted, then the State courts might be destroyed by the National Congress. When this case was before the supreme court it was reversed because of insufficiency of testimony on part of the plaintiff, but no ruling was made as to the admission of the unstamped check in testimony.

In Ueberroth *vs.* Riegel, 71 Pa., 282, tried

in the court of common pleas of Lehigh county, the plaintiff's claim arose on a writing as follows:

"Friedensville, Dec. 18, 1865.

SIRS:—Please give the bearer, Henry Fink, the goods which he will select, not exceeding over five hundred and fifty dollars on my account.

J. J. UEBERROTH."

The judge in the lower court admitted the writing, saying there was no specific tax in the schedule on such a written paper.

The Supreme court said on appeal: "The order is not a complete contract in itself, and was not offered in evidence as such. It is only a link in the chain of evidence to establish a contract * * * and without oral testimony showing an acceptance of the order by the delivery of the goods, no obligation would be established between the parties. * * * The order in question is wanting in these essential elements, and does not require a stamp to make it admissible in evidence under the statute *even if its provisions* are obligatory, as a rule of evidence, on the State courts." This decision was rendered in October, 1872, and soon thereafter the Stamp Act was repealed. So that the emphatic ruling in Boucher's case made about 1869 was never qualified or over-ruled by the Supreme court, but the ruling in Ueberroth's case seems to imply that Congress is vested with no power to render inadmissible as evidence a contract in writing not stamped.

In Lower Macungie *vs.* Merkhoffer, 71 Pa., 276, Merkhoffer's team of four mules were hauling iron ore over a public road alongside of which there was dug an ore pit, and, being without guard, one of the mules on the lead shied towards the pit, scaring at some object, and went so far as to throw the wagon into it, drawing also some of the mules with it, causing damages, etc. Among other thing in the charge it continued as follows: "The plaintiff had a right to drive a shying mule, but knowing that vice he must exercise greater care than would be required if no such vice existed. It would be folly to declare the law to be that roads need not be kept in repair so as to avoid accident from the ordinary shying of horses. It is a matter of common information that horses will shy at different objects, and it therefore becomes the duty of the supervisors so to keep the roads that teams will not be overset by this vice in horses, and if any damage be sustained from this source, the result of unavoidable accident upon the part of the plaintiff and caused by the negligence of the defendant, the defendant will be liable to respond in damages. If, therefore, you find negligence upon the part of the defendant, and no negligence upon the part of the plaintiff, or his teamster, your verdict will be for the plaintiff; otherwise, for the defendant." The jury found for the plaintiff. The case was removed to the Supreme court and affirmed by a short *per curiam* opinion for the reasons given by the judge in the lower court.

The Glendon Iron Co. *vs.* Uhler & Fulmer, 75 Pa., 467, in equity: The Glendon Iron company was a manufacturer of iron and branded it with the trade mark, "Glendon." The place where the furnaces were located was afterwards incorporated as a borough under the name of Glendon, and Uhler & Fulmer located another furnace there and branded their iron "Glendon." It was conceded as a general rule of law, that the name of a city or town can not be so appropriated as the exclusive property of any one, but it was contended that this case was taken out of the general rule because the Glendon Iron works were so named

many years before this locality and adjoining territory was incorporated as a borough. The court ruled that this fact presented no legal reason for a distinction; that as soon as the town was incorporated it became Glendon to the whole world, and the previous appropriation of its name by a manufacturer will not preclude all others in the same line of business from using Glendon also as a trade brand denoting their place of business as well as the product manufactured. This ruling was affirmed in the higher court.

The Fry Election case, 71 Pa., 302, presented the question of the right of students at college to vote. It was decided in 1872, and has since that time been cited as a leading case, not only in this State, but in contested cases in Congress. It arose out of the municipal election of the city of Allentown, and involved the election of a member of common council. It was admitted that eleven of the voters of the second ward are students of Muhlenberg college; that they are citizens of the State of Pennsylvania, and they claimed that their residence was said college, where they have lived from one to three years; that they were assessed and paid taxes; that they came to college for no other purpose than to receive a collegiate education, but intended to leave after graduating. These students are admitted to be of two classes: those who support themselves, or are assisted pecuniarily by persons other than their parents, are emancipated from their father's families, have left the homes of their parents, and never intend to return and make it a permanent abode; second, those who are supported by their parents, visit their parents' home during vacation, and may or may not return there after graduating. * * * All of said votes, which in the opinion of the court are illegal, are to be cast out, and then the court to decree in favor of the parties having the highest vote. In this issue Judge Longaker decided that they were not legal voters, and rejected in the count both classes. Among other things, saying: "The charter of the city of Allentown requires that electors who are otherwise qualified under the general laws of this commonwealth, be citizens; all other requisites being admitted, we are brought at once to the first section of the third article of the State constitution, which provides: 'In elections by citizens, every white freeman of the age of twenty-one years, having *resided* in this State one year, and in the election district where he offers to vote ten days immediately preceding such election, shall enjoy the rights of an elector.' The important inquiry is the import of the word 'resided,' which appears not to have had a definite judicial interpretation in this State. As the word 'inhabitant' occurs in other parts of the constitution, prescribing that the governor and the representatives shall be inhabitants of the State, and that the judges of Supreme court shall reside within the commonwealth, and other judges while in office within the district or county for which they were elected, it is obvious that inhabitant or resident refers to a person who has a permanent abode. Inhabitant is, says Webster, 'a dweller, one who dwells or resides permanently in a place.' It therefore follows that 'resided, resident and inhabitant' as applied to the elector are of the same signification and import; that the elector must vote at home, the place of his domicil. * * * The domicil of origin is not abandoned until a new one has been intentionally and actually acquired. * * * Those of the first

class came for no other purposes than to receive a collegiate education, and, intending to leave after graduating, cannot have lost the domicil of origin because they did not enter college to make the place of its location their permanent home, and without such specific intention no new home can be gained; and until a new home be gained, the old cannot be lost. The phrase, 'intending to leave after graduating,' forcibly and clearly overthrows any intent to obtain a permanent abode, and introduces so clearly the fact that their purpose was indefinite and temporary, that its only value as an admitted fact is to show the fugitive character of the college abode, and wholly inconsistent with a fixed purpose to gain a new permanent home, or residence, within the meaning of the constitution. Those of the second class have no tenable grounds to support a purpose to gain a new and permanent home. * * * Holding these views, both classes must be excluded from the count of legal voters." On appeal taken, Justice Agnew in an elaborate opinion affirmed the decree of the lower court.

In McIntyre *vs.* The Lehigh Valley railroad in the common pleas of Lehigh county, the plaintiff purchased a ticket at the Hazleton Junction when visibly under the influence of liquor, and entered the cars, and while going to his destination he became unruly, noisy, and even indecent. The conductor warned him that, if he persisted in this conduct, he would put him off the train at Mauch Chunk. He was permitted to remain when the train arrived there, and some six miles below it he again became very noisy and offensive, and the conductor stopped the train and ejected him from the cars at a point where there was no station nor a road leading from or along the railroad, but the track on both sides had embankments of a few feet high. The night was dark and no lights to be seen indicating any one living near by. In his confused state of intoxication he wandered about the track, keeping out of the way of passing trains. Tired out and bewildered, he lay down beside the track on a heap of stones, fell asleep, and while thus sleeping he got his leg upon the track, and a passing train crushed it so that amputation became necessary. In a suit for damages, the judge charged, "that a railroad company had the right to refuse to sell a ticket to a man visibly drunk, or if getting drunk after the purchase, to prevent him from entering the car; but, if in that condition he is accepted as a passenger, and while proceeding on his journey his conduct becomes indecent, abusive, etc., so as to molest the other passengers unreasonably, he may be ejected at a station; but that he can not be ejected at a place where he is not able to protect himself from danger arising from his state of intoxication, or find his way off the track; and knowing that it was dangerous by reason of passing trains, and having accepted him, they are bound to treat him as a prudent man under like circumstances would treat a drunken man." The case referred to the jury under this instruction resulted in a verdict for the plaintiff, and on removal to the Supreme court it was affirmed.

JEREMIAH B. LARZELERE, farmer and school teacher, bank director and stock dealer, has for many years been one of the central figures of Moreland township, and especially Jenkintown, Montgomery county, and is one of the most highly esteemed residents of that section.

He is a descendant from the Huguenots, who, forced by the revocation of the edict of Nantes by Louis XV, October 22, 1685, were obliged to seek happiness in religious liberty in Germany, Scotland, England and Ireland, and later founded the colony that made South Carolina famous for men of intelligence and great statesmanship. Nicholas and John Larzelere were among the Huguenots who fled from France in the latter days of the seventeenth century, and they came almost directly to Long Island, this country. Nicholas afterwards settled on Staten Island. He married and had four children, two sons and two daughters. The sons were named Nicholas and John, and the former of these two settled in Lower Makefield township, in Bucks county, in 1741. He is the great-great-grandfather of the subject of this sketch. He died at the advanced age of eighty-four years, and was the father of eight children, the oldest of whom was also christened Nicholas and was born on Staten Island in 1724. He was a veteran of the war of the Revolution, and, like his father, lived to reach the age of eighty-four years. He was a farmer in Bensalem township, Bucks county, and was married to Hannah Britton, of Bristol. They had ten children, the eldest of whom was Benjamin, the grandfather of the subject of this sketch. Benjamin married Sarah Brown, of Bristol, and they lived at that place on a large farm. Eight children were born to them. The father lived to be eighty-four years of age. Nicholas was the second son of Benjamin and the father of our subject. He married Esther, daughter of Colonel Jeremiah Berrell, of Abington, Montgomery county. He moved to this township in 1825, and here Jeremiah Berrell Larzelere, our subject and the third son, was born on August 22, 1829. The family in all consisted of twelve children, and the father died at the age of sixty-seven years in 1858, at his home in Moreland township.

Jeremiah Berrell Larzelere was educated in the common schools of his day and finished his education in an academy at Newark, Delaware. At the age of eighteen years he began to teach school, and followed this occupation for two years in Horsham township. He then combined farming with teaching with great success and was also very successful as an extensive dealer in horses and cattle, shipping principally from the West.

In 1870 the Northeast Pennsylvania Railroad was opened. Mr. Larzelere was one of the projectors and original directors of the company and held his position until the railroad passed under the control of the Philadelphia and Reading railroad company by lease. He has also for many years been a director of the Jenkintown National bank. It will be seen that Mr. Larzelere has passed a life full of energy and activity in the business world, but notwithstanding this fact he has been able to find time to take an active and honorable part in politics. He is a Democrat of the Jefferson school, and his course has always been marked by the strictest honesty and probity. In 1872 he was elected sheriff of the county and filled a full term of three years. He has also served as a school director for nine years, and is one of the foremost educational champions in his district. Fraternally he is a member of the Free and Accepted Masons, Jenkintown Lodge, No. 400, of Jenkintown. In religious belief and practice Mr. Larzelere is a member of the Presbyterian church, and most of the family are communicants of the same faith.

Mr. Larzelere has been married twice. The first wife was Elmina, daughter of

James Lovett, of Doylestown, Bucks county, by whom he was father of seven children. These children were: Frank E., Henry, deceased; Jeremiah B., jr., Bertman, Samuel, Esther E. and Florence E. After the death of his first wife Mr. Larzelere married Caroline E. Wentz, daughter of Dilworth Wentz, of Philadelphia. No children have been born to this union. With the exception of a short time, during which he lived in Ohio, Mr. Larzelere has spent his whole life in Montgomery county. He was not only a successful business man, but he has been a good citizen, progressive in his ideas and ready to support and help along all worthy enterprises calculated to aid the welfare of his community, and being of a benevolent and kindly disposition is surrounded by neighbors who esteem and love him.

LEWIS R. HARLEY, M. A., Ph. D., was born in Chester county, Pennsylvania, August 16, 1866. His ancestors came to America from Germany, early in the eighteenth century, to escape religious persecution. Mr. Harley is a son of Harrison Harley, a prosperous farmer residing in North Coventry, Chester county. He was educated at the West Chester, Pa., Normal school, the Hill Collegiate institute, Pottstown, Pa., and finished the normal school course at the Lock Haven, Pa., Normal school. Mr. Harley finished the course for the degree of Bachelor of Philosophy, with the Illinois Wesleyan university, in 1891, and after two years of post-graduate study, with this university, in philosophy, psychology and political science, he took the degrees of Master of Arts and Doctor of Philosophy. In 1892 Mr. Harley became a post-graduate student in the University of Pennsylvania, taking work in history and politics under the eminent specialists, Dr. John Bach McMaster, Dr. Edmund J. James, Dr. Simon N. Patton, and Dr. Francis N. Thorpe. He was made an honorary fellow in history by the university in 1894, and in 1895, graduated with the degree of Doctor of Philosophy. Mr. Harley is at present, principal of the public schools of North Wales, Pa. He has also done considerable work in journalism, contributing historical and scientific articles to the Philadelphia *Press*, *Times* and *Inquirer*, and to the *Popular Science Monthly*, *American Magazine of Civics*, *American Historical Register* and *Education*. For work in journalism, Dickinson college has conferred on Mr. Harley the honorary degree of Master of Arts, and the Western University of Pennsylvania has granted him the honorary degree of Master of Philosophy. Mr. Harley married Miss Ravilla Yarnall, of Delaware county, and they have three children: Lola, Martha and Francis Lieber.

J. NEWTON MARSHALL, ticket and freight agent of the Pennsylvania railroad at Bryn Mawr, was born on his father's farm in Lancaster county on August 3, 1843, and is a son of James P. and Mary (Clark) Marshall. The Marshall family is of English descent and of Quaker stock. Abraham Marshall, the original ancestor in this country, was a companion of William Penn and was a native of Grattan, Derbyshire, England, having been born in 1669. In 1697 he came to this country with Penn and settled near Darby. He married Mary Hunt, also a native of England. In 1707 he moved to the forks of

the Brandywine and lived there on land purchased from the Indians until his death, which occurred in 1767, at the advanced age of ninety-eight years. His wife survived him until 1769, when she died at the age of eighty-seven. They had nine children, the youngest of whom was Humphrey Marshall, a great-granduncle of our subject.

Humphrey Marshall was born October 10, 1722, in West Bradford township, in Chester county. He learned the trade of stone mason and followed it a few years. With his own hands he built his residence at Marshallton. He married Sarah Pennock on September 16, 1748, and then took charge of his father's farm. He was zealous for knowledge and paid special attention to astronomy and natural history, and was the first botanist of America and the ablest of his day. From 1762 he served four years as county treasurer, having received the position by appointment. In 1764 he enlarged his father's residence, manufacturing the brick and making the whole improvement himself. He fell heir to his father's estate and immediately began to improve it by the erection of a large grist and merchant mill, He was a distinguished farmer of his day and was an honorary member of the Philadelphia Society for Promoting Agriculture. His brother James was our subject's great-grandfather and was a farmer by occupation. Moses Marshall, grandfather, had a family of several children, of whom James P. was the father of J. Newton Marshall. He was born in Chester county and attended the Quaker schools. After finishing his education he went to farming, and later kept a store at West Grove. He conducted this business for ten years and then sold out and located on a farm near Lancaster city, where he had a large store. Again he made a change and took a farm in Lancaster county, but finally settled down on a farm in Chester county, near Rochville, where he died. In politics Mr. Marshall was a Republican and served as school director. He married Sarah Pennock, of Chester county, and they had four children: Harry, Louise, Philena and Lizzie. His first wife died and he subsequently married Mary Clark, by whom he had thirteen children: Juliet, J. Newton and Frankin, twins, the latter being dead; Lineas, Alice M., Maggie, Annie, Junius, Willis, Walter, dead; Roberta, Chester and Emma. He died in 1872, aged sixty-three years.

J. Newton Marshall was educated in the schools of Lancaster county and Lancaster city and then went to work on his father's farm. In 1859 he studied telegraphy at Elizabethtown and was appointed extra operator on the Philadelphia division of the Pennsylvania railroad. He remained at this post a year and then became telegraph operator for the P. R. R. Co., president's office, in Philadelphia. He resigned this position to go back to help work on his father's farm, but was later appointed telegraph operator and clerk on the Junction railway at West Philadelphia. He left there to become night operator at Elizabethtown. In 1865 he was appointed ticket and freight agent at White Hall, Delaware county, which is just across the line from Bryn Mawr. When the main line of the Pennsylvania road was moved over to the present track and the Bryn Mawr station established, he became ticket and freight agent and has held that post ever since.

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honor. He held the office of school director and also served in other local positions. He built a large grist mill in Washington township, Berks county, and operated it in connection with his farm up to the time of his retirement from active life ten years prior to his death. Amos Schultz was a man of intelligence and great business ability. He was a very prominent worker in the Schwenkfelder church and was president and treasurer of the Charity fund for thirty years. He was an original stockholder of the National bank of Boyertown and was elected to the office of director but declined to serve. He was a very successful man in all of his undertakings and was highly respected in this community. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Samuel Kriebel, of Worcester, April 16, 1833, and their union resulted in a family of eight children: Sarah Schultz; Susanna Johnson; Joseph K., who is a miller by occupation in Washington township, Berks county; Anna, who died November 4, 1862; Lucina K.; Edwin K.; Owen K., and Elizabeth K. Gerhard.

Edwin K. Schultz was the sixth child of Amos and Elizabeth Schultz, and was born in Douglass township, Montgomery county, August 1, 1848. Up to the age of fifteen years, Edwin attended the public schools of his district and then went to work on a farm. Later he learned the trade of miller under his father and followed that business for ten years in his native township. In the meantime he married Amanda, daughter of Andrew K. Schultz, of Clayton, Berks county, October 19, 1872, and engaged in farming on a large tract of land of one hundred and twenty-five acres, which he still continues to cultivate. He gives his attention to general farming, the dairy and produce of all kinds, and has been successful. He is a man of enterprise and progress and always ready to invest in and aid anything that will be of profit or importance to his district. He is a prominent member of the Niantic Dairyman's association, and is the president and manager of the Niantic creamery which was organized in April, 1888. He is also a trustee of the Perkiomen seminary, and has been the treasurer of that institution since the new organization went into effect in 1892. He is also interested in the Boyertown National bank and other financial institutions. He is a Republican in politics, and like his fore-fathers, is a member of the Schwenkfelder church, in which he has held various offices of honor and trust.

A family of six children blessed his union with Amanda Schultz. These are: Alice, Ida, Minnie, Stella, Mattie and Andrew, S., all living at home.

JONAS S. MOYER, editor of the Hatfield *Invincible*, and grammar school teacher, is one of the brightest and most popular young men of his section of Montgomery county. He comes from Pennsylvania-German ancestry and his forefathers for many generations back were prominent residents of Franconia township, Montgomery county. His paternal grandfather was Jacob Moyer and he was born in Franconia township, on May 17, 1781. He learned the trade of tailor and followed this in connection with farming all his life. In political matters he sided with the Whig and later the Republican party. In religious belief he was a strict adherent to the doctrines of the Mennonite church and was a very active church worker. He was married to Magdalena Landis, and their union was blessed

with six children: William L., Jonas L., Molly, who intermarried with Jacob Moyer; Esther, Elizabeth and Hannah. Jonas L. Moyer, father of the subject of this sketch, was born in Franconia, February 20, 1828. He was a farmer all of his life and owned a splendid property of seventy-five acres. He was a member of the Mennonite church of Franconia, and was a Republican. He married Fanny Swartley, of Franconia, in September 1853, and their union was productive of a family of eleven children, nine of whom are still living. The children are: Philip, deceased; Magdalena, wife of Enos Detwiler; Lizzie; Anna, married to Edward Moyer; Fanny, who is the wife of Isaiah H. Keller; Jacob, William, Jonas S., Nathaniel, Katie and John.

Jonas S. Moyer's birth place is Franconia, and he was born on the 25th of May, 1865. He was sent to the public schools and afterwards attended Sumneytown academy. He taught school for a year near Tylersport, Salford township. He then went to West Chester and entered the West Chester State normal school for one term. Thereafter he taught three terms and again went to West Chester and finished the junior course. He taught school for twelve terms, one term in Salford township; four terms in Franconia township; one in Lower Salford township and six terms at Hatfield. In the meantime he took up the trade of printing at home and bought a printing office at Hatfield, on July 7, 1894. During the first year he taught the grammar school and conducted the printing business and is the publisher of the Hatfield *Invincible*, a prosperous and influential newspaper with a large and wide circulation. Mr. Moyer is a man of fine literary tastes and his paper is noted for its sound editorial utterances.

On September 3, 1892, Mr. Moyer was married to Miss Mattie, youngest daughter of Godshall Dalp, of Mainland, Montgomery county, and they occupy their own fine residence in Hatfield. He is a member of the Brethern church, of Philadelphia, and is superintendent of the Union Sunday school at Hatfield. He is a strict temperance man and is always actively identified with Republican politics.

JOHN MILLER, who with his brother, Francis Miller, operates one of the largest brick manufactories in Montgomery county, is a business man of wide acquaintance and commands the general esteem of the business community. He is a son of Andrew and Mary (Crocker) Miller, and was born on the 12th day of November, 1847, at Bridgeport. He is from good Montgomery county ancestry. He was the father of four children: Sarah, who was married to James Wilcox; Mary, Elizabeth, wife of John Wilson, and Andrew. He died July, 1873.

Andrew Miller was born at Philadelphia in 1800. He attended the public schools and then engaged to earn his livelihood as a laborer. He always voted the Democratic ticket. His union with Mary Crocker resulted in a family of ten children: Charles, Mary, Henry, Joseph, Richard, Pasco, Sarah, James, John and Francis. He died at seventy-three years of age.

John Miller was sent to the common schools and secured all the education that could be given to a boy of those times, and left at the age of thirteen years to work in the brickyard of Joel Anders, at Bridgeport, where he remained three years. He then worked five years for John Smith, at Norristown. Leaving here he went to Phila-

delphia and worked for the Melker brick works. His next position was with Schaffer Brothers, at Norristown, where he remained eight years.

In 1879 Mr. Miller and his brother Francis decided to engage in business on their own account, and they accordingly started a brickyard at Delphi P. O., near Zieglersville, which they have conducted for seventeen years. They started on a small scale, but at the present time, such has been their united work, that they do a very large business and ship great cargoes of brick to all parts of the State. Their business grew steadily and rapidly and was long ago on a very firm basis, and their name is greatly esteemed in the business world.

Politically, Mr. Miller takes to Democratic principles, and always gives close attention to the party's working in his county and vicinity. He was married to Mary Renard on November 31, 1870, and they have been blessed with a family of five children: Andrew, aged twenty-three years, Anna, aged twenty-one years; Lulu, aged eighteen years; Lee and Ella, died in infancy.

ISAIAH R. HALDEMAN is a job printer and publisher of the Harleysville *News*, and conducts a large and profitable business. He is a native of Montgomery county, having been born in Hatfield township, February 4, 1868. He is primarily of German ancestors, though his family has long resided in this county. His grandfather, on his paternal side, was Elias Haldeman, who was born in Perkiomen township in 1792. He was a farmer and a Democrat. Grandfather Haldeman reared a family of five children. These were: Elias, now deceased; Samuel, Enos, deceased; Caroline, Charles, and Henry, also dead.

Charles Haldeman, the father of the subject of this sketch, was born 1832, and like his father devoted his life to farming and owned a large and fertile farm. He was married to Miss Leah Rosenberger, and they had two children: Harvey, born October 5, 1857, and Isaiah, born February 4, 1868. He and his estimable wife are still living and are active members of the Towamencin Mennonite church.

Isaiah R. Haldeman attended the public schools of his district until he was fourteen years old and was then entered in the printing office of the Lansdale *Reporter*. Later he secured employment on the Philadelphia *Press*, where he remained two years. He then went to Harleysville and purchased the plant of the *News* printing office of the A. E. Dambly estate He has continued in this business ever since and has been eminently successful and prosperous. He has a fine office and turns out a great variety of excellent work. Mr. Haldeman is a self-made man in every sense that term implies. He started in life with nothing but good health and plenty of ambition and he worked himself up by careful attention to every detail of business both as an employee and an employer. He saved his money until he possessed three hundred dollars, which he invested in a building and loan association. This formed the nucleus of his capital which he has constantly added to since he has been in business.

Mr. Haldeman, like his father, is a Republican and has always taken a prominent part in local politics. The Harleysville *News*, of which he is the editor, was the only paper in the county with one exception that came out for Quay in his memorable fight for control of the State Republican

organization at a time when the Senator's fight was a seemingly hopeless one.

On October 5, 1887, he married Kate, daughter of Rev. John Rosenberger, of Hatfield, a well known preacher of the Mennonite denomination. This union has beeu made happy by the birth of two children: Ella, born August 8, 1892, and Eve, born July 26, 1895. His wife died September 23, 1895.

WILLIAM H. CLEVENGER, is a retired business man of Ardmore, a son of Enoch W. and Margaret (Fisher) Clevenger, and was born in Lower Merion township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, January 24, 1858. Enoch W. Clevenger was of German descent and his father was a resident of New Jersey. He removed in early life to a farm on the Haverford road in Lower Merion township, where he carried on an extensive dairy and supplied a large quantity of milk daily to one part of Philadelphia. He was a prominent farmer, owned a good farm and served as a director of an insurance company. He was a Republican in politics and died in 1871, aged sixty-three years. He married Margaret Fisher in 1853, and their children were: Emma L. (deceased), Kate and William H., whose name appears at the head of this sketch.

William H. Clevenger was reared on his father's Lower Merion farm until he attained his thirteenth year, and then was sent to Philadelphia, where he received his education in Rittenhouse academy. Leaving school he turned his attention to commercial pursuits and engaged in the grocery business at Ardmore as a member of the firm of Lesher & Clevenger. This firm continued very successfully for sixteen years, and then Mr. Clevenger withdrew as a partner. Having disposed of his interest in the grocery business he concluded to see something of Florida, in which he had become somewhat interested from favorable reports which he had received concerning that country, and accordingly made a tour through the "Peninsular State" and parts of Alabama and Mississippi. Not finding that country such as he expected he returned home, again embarked in the grocery business, and opened an establishment on the Lancaster road, where the present post office is now located. His second investment was such as the section of the country demanded, but in two months he disposed of his place of business and stock of goods to P. Lukens, who has continued there ever since. Mr. Clevenger was variously engaged for a short time after leaving the grocery business, and since 1892 has chiefly given his attention to his own personal affairs. He is a member of the Jefferson club, of Ardmore. In politics Mr. Clevenger is a strong Democrat, and has been a delegate frequently to county and district conventions of his party.

DANIEL KINZIE, a civil engineer of high reputation and for the past twenty years justice of the peace at Gulf Mills, Upper Merion township, Montgomery county, is one of the most prominent men of that section of the county. He is of Scotch-American ancestry. His grandfather, Daniel Kinzie, emigrated from Scotland and lived at Radnor, on the estate now owned by Mrs. George W. Childs. He was born in Shire of Inverness, Scotland, on May 28, 1763, and came to America in

1772, when only nine years old. The family located at Kingsess, near Philadelphia. He served in the War of the Revolution on a privateer and was wounded by having one thumb shot off in an engagement. After the war he established himself as a farmer and became wealthy. He was prominent in local affairs and was highly respected in his section. He was married twice. His first wife was Miss McVail, and they had two children: John and Ann. May Hansel was his second wife, and four children were born to them. He died in 1843 at the age of eighty-five years.

John Kinzie, father of our subject, lived in boyhood on his father's farm near Bryn Mawr and attended the schools of his district. He then became a teacher and taught school in Bryn Mawr and throughout Montgomery and Chester counties. He then bought a flour mill near Yellow Springs, Chester county, and worked it all his life. When the War of 1812 broke out he enlisted in the Montgomery Rifles under Colonel Scott, later under General Scott, as a private and served throughout the war. He was pensioned later and his name was mentioned for meritorious conduct.

In politics he was a Democrat and in religious belief adhered to the doctrines of the Baptist church. In 1811 he married Mary Sheaff, and their union was blessed by ten children: Emily and Sabina, deceased; our subject; William; Susan; Rebecca, deceased; John; Isabella; Charles; and Horatio Gates. He died in 1857, aged seventy years.

Daniel Kinzie was born at Bryn Mawr, April 7, 1818, and spent his boyhood days in Lower Merion township, where he attended school. He then clerked for two years in a store at Manayunk. In 1841 he came to Upper Merion township where he kept a store. In 1865 he took up the profession of surveyor and has ever since followed it with success. He has always been a very active Democrat. In 1875 he was elected justice of the peace and has been re-elected four terms of five years each Though this is a strong Republican district he has held every local office in the township except that of constable. During the war he was postmaster at Gulf Mills and was therefore exempt from service in the army. Mr. Kinzie is unmarried.

RALPH M. WARNER, JR., who is engaged successfully in the insurance and real estate business at Ardmore, is a son of Ralph M. and Keziah (Jones) Warner, and was born in the city of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, August 2, 1853. His grandfather, William Warner, was born in the initial year of the present century, and lived to be eighty-one years of age. He was wealthy, and a large manufacturer in Philadelphia, and made his home during the latter part of his life in Jenkintown. Mr. Warner was a Democrat and an Episcopalian, and was twice married. His first wife was Alice, by whom he had six children, and his second wife, Isabella, bore him two children. His son, Ralph M. Warner, was born at Jenkintown, where he was reared and educated. He learned the trade of engraver with his brother, and worked steadily until 1850, when he became a messenger in the office of the recorder of deeds in Philadelphia. He was duly promoted until he is now chief search clerk in the office. He is a staunch Republican, has served frequently as a committeeman from the fourteenth ward, and has been a dele-

gate to both State and national conventions of his party. Mr. Warren is an active Odd Fellow, and in 1852, married Keziah Jones, a daughter of David Jones, a prominent citizen of Lower Merion township. Their children were: Ralph M., jr., Elizabeth, David, C. Pierce, Elwood, Edwin and Ella. Of these children but two are living, Ralph M., jr., and C. Pierce.

Ralph M. Warner received his education in the public schools of Philadelphia, and then became a traveling salesman for H. P. Manley, of Potsdam, New York, in whose employ he remained for ten years. At the end of that time he came to White Hall, now Bryn Mawr, where he was engaged for the next six years in the general mercantile business under the firm name of Arthur & Warner.

Withdrawing from the above partnership, he was with the Union News company for five years at Haverford, and then in 1890, was appointed by President Harrison, post-master of that place. He served as post-master for four years, and then was appointed by Governor Hastings, justice of the peace at Ardmore, to fill the unexpired term of Frank P. Ashbrook. Since becoming a resident of Ardmore, Mr. Warner has engaged in the real estate and insurance business, and is successful in both lines. He represents the Mutual North American Fire Insurance company, of Philadelphia. He is a staunch and working Republican, and an active member of the Presbyterian church. He is also a member of Star Council No. 3, Senior Order of United American Mechanics, of Bryn Mawr.

On October 24, 1876, Mr. Warner married Mary M. Dreeby, of Philadelphia, and to their union have been born four children: George, David, deceased; Pierre, and Frank.

WILLIAM P. FENTON, a general merchant of Collegeville, the only surviving child of Captain Herbert M. and Hannah (Homan) Fenton, was born at Bristol, Bucks county, Pennsylvania, January 29, 1853. Captain Herbert M. Fenton was born in Bucks county, in 1825. In early life he became a sailor and was soon placed in command of a vessel. He served as a sea captain from 1845 to 1881. In the latter year he retired from the sea and engaged in his present general mercantile business at Wissahickon, this State. Captain Fenton married Hannah Homan, a daughter of Alfred Homan, of Camden, N. J. To Captain and Mrs. Fenton were born four children, three sons and one daughter: Curtis, Edwin, Jennie and William P., all of whom are deceased except William P. the subject of this sketch.

William P. Fenton attended the common schools of Bucks county, and took the full commercial course at Bryant and Stratton's business college, of Philadelphia, from which he was graduated in 1873. Leaving the business college he became book-keeper for Heston & Sons, a large manufacturing firm of Frankford, Philadelphia, and with whom he remained for a period of nearly ten years. In 1881, Mr. Fenton came to Collegeville, this county, and purchased Frank M. Hobson's store and large stock of general merchandise. He held the extensive patronage that Mr. Hobson had built up during a quarter of a century, and has kept up in his line of business with the development of Collegeville during the last two decades.

His business ability and experience has been fully equal to the requirements of the situation, and in consequence he has a first class patronage that extends over a considerable area of territory. Mr. Fenton keeps

a large and well assorted stock of merchandise carefully purchased for the general wants and particular needs of his patrons. Mr. Fenton is a Republican politically, and has served for some time as a member of the school board of Collegeville. He is a member and vestryman of St. James Protestant Episcopal church, of Evansburg, and a member and the junior warden of Warren Lodge, No. 310, Free and Accepted Masons.

On December 11, 1884, William P. Fenton was united in marriage with Ida L. Bowman, a daughter of Jonas Bowman, of Collegeville. Their union has been blessed with one child, a son, named Willie B., who was born October 12, 1885.

The Fenton's are of English descent, and have been residents of Pennsylvania for three generations, while the Homans are of Swedish extraction and have been in the State for several years.

ERNEST M. VAUGHAN, M. D., a practicing physician of Royer's Ford, is a son of Jacob and Elizabeth (Hamilton) Vaughan, and was born in Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, February 5, 1863. His father was also a native of this county, and his mother was born in the city of Baltimore Maryland.

The elder Vaughan was a farmer by occupation, and the boyhood of Dr. Vaughan was spent on the farm. He attended the public schools, where he acquired a superior English education, and at an early age began to evince a fondness for the medical profession. While still on the farm he began the study of medicine, devoting to this subject all his leisure time. He subsequently matriculated at the Hahnemann Medical college, of Philadelphia, from which institution he was graduateed with the degree of M. D. in June, 1893. Dr. Vaughan remained in Philadelphia one year after his graduation, practicing in the Hahnemann homeopathic hospital of that city, and making a special study of diseases of the nose and throat. In 1894 he located at Royer's Ford and began a successful practice, which has become extensive and lucrative. He soon became known as a skillful physician and a cultured gentleman. He continues to give special attention to diseases of the nose and throat, and for a young physician has won an exceptional reputation in that line.

In July, 1892, Dr. Vaughan was united in marriage to Anna McClintock, a daughter of Robert and Penella McClintock, of the city of Philadelphia. To the Doctor and Mrs. Vaughan have been born two children, both sons: Jacob N. and Richard H. Dr. Vaughan is a member of the Hahnemann college Alumni society, of Philadelphia, and an earnest student of the literature of his profession. Professionally he has already won success, and his career promises to be one of usefulness.

D. H. STREEPER, a self-made business man of Norristown, is a son of Leonard and Hannah (Ball) Streeper, and was born in Lower Providence township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, August 25, 1855. The Streepers are of Russian descent, and one of its members emigrated from Russia to America as early as 1714 and located in Philadelphia near what is now Logan Station, but soon afterward returned to his native country. The paternal grandfather of D. H. Streeper was a resident of Whitemarsh township, this county, where

he was engaged in farming. He was a regular attendant of the Lutheran church, in which he took an active part, and married Sarah Kantz, by whom he had six children: Charles, Henry, David, Peter, all of whom are deceased; and Catharine Freas. Mr. Streeper died at an advanced age, and was survived by Mrs. Streeper, who had she lived four more years, would have become a centenarian. Leonard Streeper was a native of Springfield township, Montgomery county, and received his education in the common schools, after which he removed to Lower Providence township, where he was engaged in farming until his death. He was a supporter of the Democratic party and filled several local offices. He adhered to the Lutheran church, married Hannah Ball, and reared a family of seven children: Joshua; James; Daniel; Seth, deceased; Caroline; Sarah Reigle.

D. H. Streeper received his early education in the common schools of Lower Providence township. Leaving school, he remained with his father on the farm until 1873, when he learned the trade of plumber. At the end of four years he became engaged in joinery work under the firm of Streeper & Hutchinson. In 1880 he went into the business for himself, and in 1881 purchased property at No. 150 West Main street, Norristown, where he now resides. He does a large business in steam, gas and electrical work, and has a number of men in his employ.

On January 20, 1880, he was united in marriage with a daughter of Peter Thomas, a saddler of Montgomery county. In religious matters he is a member of the Reformed church, of which he has served as deacon and is now serving as elder. Politically he is a Republican and has served for one term as member of the town council. He is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Montgomery Lodge No. 57. He is also a member of Beaver Tribe No. 62, Improved Order of Red Men, the Knights of Friendship, and Washington Camp No, 114, Patriotic Order Sons of America.

A. V. FINLEY, the senior member of the business firm of A. V. Finley & Co., of Norristown, is a son of John Simms and Phœbe (Rhoades) Finley, and was born at Norristown, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, February 8, 1860. The original American ancestry of the Finley family is traced to Salem, county, New Jersey, where David Finley's paternal grandfather was born and educated. Later he removed to Christiana Creek, New Castle county, Delaware, where he resided until 1826, when he came to Norristown. He died just one year after the close of the Civil war, at the ripe old age of eighty-five years. He married Ruth Mills and reared a family of eight children: John Simms, Richard, David, Job, Mackenzie, Mary A., Sarah A. Anderson and Susan Knox. John Simms Finley (father), remained at home until he arrived at the age of eighteen years. He then came to Norristown of which place he was a resident until his death in 1891, being seventy-eight years of age. He was a machinist and iron worker by trade, and by thrift and industry became well and favorably known in his immediate neighborhood. He married Phœbe Rhoades, who died in 1875, at the advanced age of sixty years. Their union was blessed with seven children: Charles, A. V., Samuel, James, William D. MacKenzie and Rebecca.

At twelve years of age A. V. Finley left the common schools and spent seven years

with his father upon a farm near Norristown. At this time he became engaged in the market business at No. 414 East Main street, Norristown, and subsequently removed to No. 366 on the same street where he soon succeeded in establishing a good trade. In 1890 he entered into partnership with his nephew under the firm name of A. V. Finley & Co., and located at the corner of Mill and Main streets. They do a jobbing and retail produce and market business in which they employ six men. The building occupied is a three story brick structure 24 by 78 feet. They carry a fine stock of well selected goods; and are likewise interested in the Farmers' Market of their borough, in which they own and conduct stalls. Politically Mr. Finley is a Republican who believes in a full support of the principles of his party. He is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Curtis Lodge, No. 236; the Ancient Order of Forresters, and the Knights of the Golden Eagle, Montgomery Castle.

On March, 1886, Mr. Finley married Margaret Scanlan, who is now deceased. They had one child, Maggie, who is also dead. On June, 1891, Mr. Finley married for his second wife Lydia Reany, a daughter of William Reany, of Birmingham, England. To this second union have been born two sons: William and George.

Mr. Finley resides at No. 505 Green street, where he is surrounded with everything essential to a pleasant home.

HERMAN R. STADELMAN the proprietor of the largest drug house at Ardmore, is the oldest son of Samuel F. and Ida E. (Merritt) Stadelman, and was born in Ardmore, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, March 21, 1871. His grandfather, Jacob L. Stadelman, kept the Black Horse hotel, at Overbrook, for quite a number of years. He was prominent, active and useful in his community. He commanded a Pennsylvania militia regiment. He was a Democrat, a Lutheran and a member of the Masonic fraternity, and died in 1881, aged seventy-three years. Colonel Stadelman married Hannah Latch, and their children were: Lizzie, Mary, Jeannette, Jacob, William and Samuel F. The latter, father of the subject of this sketch, was born and reared at the Black Horse hotel and attended the Pennsylvania college at Gettysburg, which he left during the war to assume his brother Jacob's coal and lumber business at Ardmore, then Athensville, while the latter entered the the Union army. After the war he took the regular course at the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy, from which he was graduated in 1870. He then opened a drug store in Ardmore, which he conducted up to the time of his death, which occurred April 24, 1892, aged forty-nine years. He was active and prominent in everything effecting his community. He was a Democrat and served two terms as justice of the peace. He was a very active member of St. Paul's Lutheran church, whose edifice he was largely instrumental in building. He was a director of the Merion Title and Trust company and the Bryn Mawr Building and Loan association. He was prominent and useful as a citizen as well as a business man, and being a clear and interesting talker was frequently called upon for public addresses. In 1870 he married Ida E. Merritt, and they had seven children: Herman R., Alice (deceased), Edith, Mabel, Leigh, Grace and Zoa, now dead.

Herman R. Stadelman was reared at Ardmore and received his education in Pennsylvania college, at Gettysburg, from which he was graduated in 1892, and then entered the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy, where he took special courses and was graduated with the degree of Ph. G.

At the death of his father he succeeded to the large drug business of the latter, which he has conducted most successfully ever since. He has the largest drug house at Ardmore and does an extensive and profitable business. Mr. Stadelman has served for three years as manager of the Ardmore district of the Delaware and Atlantic Telephone and Telegraph company, and in various ways is active in the best interests of his town and community.

SOLOMON SNYDER, ex-register of wills of Montgomery county, ex-justice of the peace of Mainland and a retired school teacher of reputation, is one of the oldest residents of the county and is still remembered as one of the most active politicians of former years in this section of the State. He is a man of superior education, and long years of experience made him a man who is looked up to for advice and wise council in public affairs. He is now in his seventy-ninth year and at this ripe age is still hale and hearty and capable of taking an interest in those things that are of advantage to the community in which he lives. His ancestors are of German origin and have been residents of Montgomery county for many generations following divers vocations, but generally combining farming with other business enterprises. It was a thrifty family and all prospered and became more or less influential in the neighborhood in which they lived. His paternal grandfather, Jacob Snyder, was a tanner by trade and he followed this business in conjunction with farming. In politics he was a working Democrat and served as justice of the peace. He was a consistent Christian and a member of the Reformed church. He married and had three children.

The subject of this sketch is a son of Isaac and Elizabeth Snyder, and was born in New Hanover township, on July 19, 1817. His father was also born in New Hanover township. The former secured a common school education and learned the trade of tanner under his father. He followed this business all his life and also worked a fine farm. He was an active Democrat and was elected register of wills of Montgomery county and served a full term. In religious belief he was a member of the Reformed church and served as a deacon, elder and trustee of the church at New Hanover. His wife's name was Elizabeth and they were the parents of ten children as follows: Solomon, Louis; Sophia, wife of Jacob Hendricks; Jacob and John, deceased; Susanna, wife of Jacob Swartz; Mary, wife of Henry Cassel, both of whom are dead; Harmina; Augustus and Isaac, who died young.

Solomon Snyder was given the best education his parents could afford. After passing through the common schools he attended Washington Hall for three sessions and then spent two sessions at Lexington academy, leaving here at the age of twenty-one years. He learned the profession of civil engineer, but followed the, to him, a more congenial calling of school teacher for over twenty years. He also owned a small farm which he operated with considerable profit. He early felt an inclination for politics and

soon became an active leader in the Democratic ranks of his district. In fact he became so well known that he was taken up as a candidate for register of wills and was elected, receiving a large majority over his opponent. He also served as justice of the peace for fifteen years and was a notary public. Being a man of the strictest probity of character and of good ability he served in all these offices with credit to himself and the people who supported him. Mr. Snyder's public career was one of which he and his offspring may well be proud. He was not only a public official, but was always ready to take active part in anything that would be of benefit to the community in which he lived.

Mr. Snyder married Dorothea, daughter of Emanuel Swartz, on December 26, 1841, and two children have been born to them. They are: Franklin, born October 29, 1842, and Isaiah, born May 16, 1846. The family all attend the Reformed church in which Mr. Snyder has been deacon, elder and trustee. For a number of years he was secretary of the congregation.

JOHN KEYSER, a retired business man of Norristown, is a son of John and Catharine (Spare) Keyser, and was born in Skippack township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, September 16, 1824. He is of German extraction, and his paternal great-grandfather emigrated from Germany to America. His son, Peter Keyser (grandfather), one of the early pioneers of this county, was the only survivor of a large family of children, the remainder of whom were killed by the Indians during the early settlement of the State. Peter Keyser was a wheelwright and worked at his trade during the active years of his life near Hustletown, now Evansburg. He owned a small farm, which he kept in a good state of cultivation, and was a supporter of the old line Whig party. He married Esther Stern, by whom he had six children: John, sr., Jacob, George, Christian, Samuel and Elizabeth Poley. Mrs. Keyser died at the age of sixty years. Mr. Keyser died at the advanced age of seventy-six years. John Keyser, sr. (father) was also a native of Skippack township, where he was engaged in the same trade as his father; later he removed to the old homestead farm and devoted the remainder of his life to agricultural pursuits. He was also a member of the Whig party and married Catharine Spare, who died in the eighty-fifth year of her age. This union was blessed with five children: John, Henry, Peter, Catharine Tyson and Hannah Bergey.

John Keyser was born and reared in Skippack township, and at the proper age he learned the trade of wheelwright, at which he worked for about twenty years. He then quit the trade of wheelwright and purchased a flouring mill on Perkiomen creek, in Lower Merion township, whither he removed in 1864. Remaining there for five years, he then employed his son, William, to operate the mill until 1890. In that year he came to Norristown, where he has ever since lived a retired life. Mr. Keyser votes the Republican ticket, and has been a faithful member of the Lower Providence Presbyterian church for forty-one years. For fourteen years he served as trustee of his church, and since that time has acted as an elder. Being ever earnest and faithful in the performance of all his duties in life, he has won many friends. In 1855 Mr. Keyser married Rebecca Plush,

who is an aunt of Dr. S. M. Plush. They have reared a family of five children: William, who is a miller; Grant Irwin, Ida (deceased), and Belle, who wedded Adolph Meyer, a lawyer of the Philadelphia bar.

CHRISTIAN G. BAIR, a justice of the peace at Pottstown, is a native of Berks county, this State, where he was born, March 4, 1842. He is descended from one of the old German families that settled in Pennsylvania during early times, his grandfather, Henry Bair, having emigrated from the fatherland and found a new home in Berks county in the last quarter of the eighteenth century. In that county his son, Henry L. Bair (father), was born and reared, and there he resided nearly all his life. He was a stonemason by trade, and died in 1884 at the age of seventy-three. He married Sarah Geiger, also of German descent, and a native of Montgomery county. To them was born a family of twelve children, of whom only six now survive: Thomas S., Ruth, Elizabeth, wife of Frederick Livengood, a carpenter, of Pottstown; Christiana, wife of Henry R. Wentzel, also a carpenter, of the same city; Christian G., the subject of this sketch, and Samuel G., a resident of Pottstown. Mrs. Sarah Bair died in 1883, aged seventy-four years. She and her husband had been married and kept house for fifty-six years, and their remains sleep side by side in the Pottstown cemetery.

Christian G. Bair was reared principally in Berks county, this State, and obtained his education in the public schools. In 1863, when twenty-one years of age, he entered the Union army as a private in Company F, Twenty-sixth Pennsylvania Infantry, and served one year. Upon receiving his discharge in 1864 he returned home and became head blacksmith in the Pottstown car factory, having learned the trade before joining the army. For ten years he was foreman in the iron department of the car works, and then engaged in business for himself. For four years he did general jobbing in the line of his trade at Pottstown, and during 1883 and 1884 was in business at Atlantic City, New Jersey.

In February, 1885, Mr. Bair was elected receiver of taxes for Pottstown on the Democratic ticket by a majority of 142. He was four times re-elected by ever increasing majorities, until at the last election it reached eight hundred and eighty-seven. In February, 1891, he was elected to the office of justice of the peace, and has ever since occupied that important and responsible position. He served on the Pottstown school board for six years, and received the unanimous vote of the convention for another term, but declined the nomination and refused to be a candidate. He has always taken an active part in local politics and public affairs.

On August 6, 1865, Mr. Bair was married to Elizabeth Hartenstine, a daughter of Aaron Hartenstine, of Pottstown, and they had five children: Emma, married Howard Trout, of Philadelphia; Minnie, deceased; Harry R., Anna B., deceased; and Lulu Irene. Mrs. Elizabeth Bair died very suddenly of heart disease on July 4, 1890. On October 9, 1893, Mr. Bair was again married, wedding for his second wife Phœbe Sheets, a daughter of George Sheets, of Montgomery county.

At the present time, 'Squire Bair is engaged extensively in the real estate business at Pottstown, and also represents a number of leading fire and life insurance

companies. He is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and has served as treasurer of his lodge for nearly a quarter of a century. He is also a member of the Royal Arcanum, the Improved Order of Red Men and the Grand Army of the Republic. In religious faith and church membership he is a Lutheran, and is highly regarded as an intelligent and public spirited citizen.

DR. J. NEWTON HUNSBERGER, of Skippack, is one of the most prominent young physicians in and a native of the county of Montgomery, where his ancestors have long lived. He was born March 8, 1867, and is the son of M. B. and Anna (Johnston) Hunsberger. His grandfather on his paternal side was born in 1790, was a farmer by occupation and spent his life in that work. He was a strong Whig in politics and was highly respected in the community. Dr. Hunsberger's father attended the common schools of his day until he was twelve years of age. He then went on the farm. Later in life he engaged in the live-stock business at Skippack and continued in that until 1882, when he went back to farming. He was very successful, and has a farm of eighty-five acres. Mr. M. B. Hunsburger has been a Republican since 1858, is a member of the Reformed church and has been for many years a deacon and trustee and is at present treasurer of the Sunday school. He has only two children: Josephine, who is married and living in New Jersey; and the subject of this sketch.

Dr. Hunsberger attended the public schools and then graduated from the West Chester State normal school. Leaving this school he began to read medicine, and in 1889, graduated from the University of Pennsylvania, at the age of twenty-two years. He first began the practice of his profession at Atlantic City. From that place he removed to Skippack, where he has remained ever since, and enjoys a very large practice. Dr. Hunsberger is a member of the Reformed church, a Republican in politics and a member of but one secret organization, Lodge No. 310, Free and Accepted Masons. He has been secretary of the Montgomery branch of the Pennsylvania Forestry association for many years and has always taken an active interest in the work of Forestry. While in college Dr. Hunsburger was prominent in athletics and one of the most skillful in the school at the oar, having been a member of the crew in eight races. He has contributed a number of articles to medical journals on professional subjects, and although young in practice, is a thorough student and an industrious and conscientious practitioner.

Dr. Hunsberger married Susan Fry Daily, a daughter of Joshua G. Daily, of Norristown. This union has been blessed with two children, the elder of whom died in infancy; Anna, who is still living, was born in June, 1894.

CHARLES H. MURRAY, a good tradesman and careful farmer, of Upper Merion township, is a son of George and Elizabeth (Supplee) Murray, and was born in Tredyffrin township, Chester county, Pennsylvania, June 19, 1848. He was reared and educated in his native township and learned the trade of carpenter, which he followed at different places in Chester county for fifteen years. At the end of that time he came to Upper Merion township,

this county, where he was engaged in working at his trade and in contracting and building for several years. He then purchased his present farm, and has been engaged ever since in farming and stock-raising. He has always been an active supporter of the Democratic party, and is a member of the Baptist church. Turning his entire attention to farming and stock-raising some years ago, he has been very active and progressive in the interests of agriculture. He is a member of Merion Grange No. 112, Patrons of Husbandry.

The Murray family is of Scotch descent and came originally from Scotland, in the history of which country the name is conspicuous among the titled nobility and for bravery in numerous wars. George Murray, the paternal grandfather of the subject of this sketch lived in Delaware county, and was one of the number, who in days when "it tried men's souls," fought in the great Revolutionary struggle that won our national independence.

George Murray, father, was reared in Delaware county, and learned the trade of carpenter, which he followed in his own and Chester counties. He was a Democrat and Baptist, and died in 1886, at the age of sixty-eight years. He was a member of a Philadelphia Masonic lodge, and married Elizabeth Supplee, a daughter of John Supplee. To their union were born five children: John S., Mary J., Charles H., William A., and Annie, who is now deceased.

HON. ALAN WOOD, JR., ex-member of Congress and a retired member of the famous iron manufacturing firm of the Alan Wood company, is one of the most prominent residents of Montgomery county, and when active in business and politics, was one of the foremost men of the State. He is at present living quietly on a large estate and in a handsome mansion in Lower Merion township, near Conshohocken. Mr. Wood is the second son of Alan and Ann Hunter (Dewees) Wood, and comes from that good old line of Friends and French emigrants who took such a prominent part in the settlement of the county and the War of the Revolution. He is also one of the descendants of the original iron masters of that name who founded the gigantic industries that have brought so much wealth to the family and such prosperity to the town in which they are established. A full detailed account of his ancestry will be found in the sketches of his brother, Howard, and his uncle, Hon. John Wood.

Alan Wood, jr., was born in Philadelphia, on the 6th of July, 1834. He attended the Friends' schools and other high class educational institutions. Like all of his brothers he entered the business of his father and mastered all of its details and later became one of the most active members of the firm. He amassed a large fortune and when he reached the meridian of life retired from active business. He has since been enjoying the fruits of his labor and the pleasure of making those around him happy. On the 10th of October, 1861, Mr. Wood married Miss Mary H. Yerkes, daughter of Joseph and Mary (Harry) Yerkes, of Conshohocken; they have had no children.

Mr. Wood was always a strong Republican and took a great interest in politics. In 1876 he was nominated for Congress by the Republican convention to represent the district composed of Montgomery and Bucks counties. This was a very strong Democratic stronghold, but such was Mr.

Wood's popularity and so well was his ability appreciated that he defeated his opponent by a large majority. He served this term in Congress with credit and was tendered a second term, but emphatically refused to consider such a proposition. He is a man of literary taste and marked refinement, and is highly respected in the county where he is well known.

HERBERT ALONZO ARNOLD, M. D. a physician of prominence and ability now resident at Ardmore, is a son of Thomas Griffith and Sophia Fitzwater Lutz Arnold, and was born at Norristown, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, August 4, 1857. His paternal grandfather, Thomas Arnold, was a resident of Norristown, where he was connected with the old Philadelphia and Norristown railroad, when steam was being introduced on it to supercede horses as motive power. He was an Episcopalian and married Elizabeth Tippen, by whom he had nine children: John, a prominent politician who held several township and county offices; George, one of the superintendents of the Cambria Iron company, whose death resulted from exposure in the Johnstown flood; Samuel, of Philadelphia; Henry, formerly a member of the firm of McVaugh & Arnold, of Norristown; William, deceased; Thomas Griffith; Mary, widow of William White, of Norristown; Elizabeth, widow of Jacob Albright, of Philadelphia, and Martha.

Thomas Griffith Arnold, in his early boyhood days was intimately associated with General Hancock, whose father was a near neighbor. He was born in Whitpain township, and moved to Norristown, with his father, when eight years of age. He had charge successively of James Hooven's Nail work and rolling mills, and J. B. Moorehead's rolling mills. He afterwards built the Bristol Iron works and James Rowland's large nail mill in Philadelphia, which he managed many years. He then returned to Norristown where he is still active in political and municipal affairs, having served in the borough council several successive terms, and still represents his ward in that body. He is a staunch Republican and one of the oldest lodge and encampment Odd Fellows in the county. Mr. Arnold married Sophia F. Lutz, who is still living. They have two children: John Howard and Dr. Herbert A.

Dr. Herbert Alonzo Arnold received his education in the public and private schools of Norristown, and graduated from the Norristown high school, June 16, 1873, and took a post-graduate course of one year in the same institution. He began the study of medicine in 1875, at Norristown, under Joseph K. Weaver, M. D., surgeon major, first brigade, National Guard of Pennsylvania, at Norristown. Subsequent to his studentship under Dr. Weaver, he attended three courses of lectures at Jefferson Medical college, Philadelphia, and was graduated from that institution March 12, 1878. He then received the appointment of resident physician at the Philadelphia Hospital, but close application to study having broken his health, he was obliged to relinquish the appointment and seek a location in the country for practice. Dr. Arnold practised medicine at Evansburg from April 1878 to November 1879; at Academy from 1879 to May 1882; at Merion Square, from May 1882 to April 1890, and since the latter date, at Ardmore, these last three places are in the same township, and the changes were

made by him simply as a matter of convenience.

Dr. Arnold is a member of the Alumni Association of Jefferson Medical college, of the Philadelphia Chapter of the same association, and of the Montgomery County Medical association, having served the later as president in 1887. He is also a member of the Medical society of the State of Pennsylvania; the American Medical association, and Association of Military Surgeons of the United States. He is a member of the board of Censors of the Medico-Chirurgical college of Philadelphia; surgeon of battery A, National Guard of Pennsylvania. Fraternally, Dr. Arnold is past master of Cassia Masonic Lodge; past high priest of Montgomery Chapter, Royal Arch Mrsons, and past grand of Merion Lodge Indipendent Order of Odd Fellows. He is medical examiner for several life insurance companies; a member of the board of directors of the Merion Title and Trust company of Ardmore; a director of Lower Merion Building and Loan association; a trustee of Lower Merion Hall association; a trustee of the First Baptist church of Ardmore; and superintendent of Ardmore Baptist Sunday school.

In 1890 Dr. Arnold instituted an investigation of cotton and woolen factories and of school slate works, to secure data for an address on "Sanitary defects in Manufacturing Establishments" which he delivered at the Sanitary convention held at Norristown, May 9, 1890, and which was published in the reports of the State board of health of that year. He has also written upon "Fever nursing and the nursing of contagious diseases," published in full in the daily papers in 1890; "Dangers of the Inter Regnum," an address delivered at Williamsport, before the Pennsylvania State funeral directors association, in 1891; "Cholera, how shall we (physicians, nurses and undertakers) escape it?" delivered at Scranton, Pa., in 1893. By resolution of the association two thousand copies of this last address were published and distributed in Pennsylvania. He has also contributed to the valuable publications of the Pennsylvania State Medical society.

Dr. Arnold married April 22, 1880, Miss A. Louise Harley, only daughter of Henry C. Harley, Esq., of Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, and their children are: Sophia Elizabeth, Thomas, Herbert, Henry Harley, Clifford Hood, Joseph Price and Weaver Arnold.

Dr. Arnold is a descendant of John Arnold who emigrated from England into France in the company of a regiment of soldiers, where he settled for a time. He subsequently went to Holland where he married a Holland lady and died. One of his sons, Peter Arnold, by name, and the original progenitor of this branch of the Arnold family, in this country, emigrated to America about 1774 or 1775, locating at Germantown, where he married Mary Gilbert. He later bought a tract of several acres of land in Plymouth township, Montgomery county, where he resided the remainder of his life. His children were: John, Daniel, Henry, George, Thomas, Mary, Margaret R. and Ann.

ABRAHAM S. ROSENBERGER, who is one of the most prosperous farmers of Hatfield township, is also one of the prominent, enterprising and progressive citizens of his district. He is a native of this county, a lineal decendent of John Rosenberger one of the original settlers of

Hatfield township. He comes from one of those sturdy Pennsylvania German families that have almost exclusively given their attention to farming and helped to insure the prosperity and stability of their county. He is a son of Jacob and Elizabeth (Swartley) Rosenberger and was born on his father's farm in Franconia township near Souderton on the 19th of August 1843.

Daniel Rosenberger, his grandfather, was also a native of Montgomery county, and was born at Hatfield about the year 1865. He was a farmer all his life and owned his own estate. In politics he was a stern, earnest, uncompromising Whig and in religion a member of the Mennonite church. He was married to Sophia Wireman, became the father of seven children: Henry, John, Benjamin, Catharine married Abraham Allebach; Daniel, Martin and Abraham. He died in 1865, aged sixty-five years.

Jacob Rosenberger was born December, 1809, and received a common school education. He followed the avocation of his father most of his years and tilled the soil of a large farm. Besides this he was engaged in the manufacturing of various articles of utility and ornament, such as sieves, brooms, brackets and general bric-a-brac. Mr. Rosenberger was full of energy and enterprise, and his business undertakings flourished. Politically he was a Republican and like his father was a believer and a conscientious follower of the Mennonite faith. He was married to Elizabeth Swartley, and they had nine children: Anna; Emma, died young; Mary became the wife Michael Swartley; Abraham S., the subject of this sketch; Daniel, Jacob; Elizabeth, wife of Jonas Hunsberger; Catharine, wife of Aaron L. Gehman; and Sarah Ann, deceased. He He died January 6th, 1894, aged eighty-four years.

Abraham S. Rosenberger was given a good education. On leaving the township schools at the age of fifteen years, he took a course at Kulpsville seminary for two winters. He then took one term at the Carversville normal institute, and a short teacher's preparatory course at Pottstown under Robert Cruikshank. He then went out into the world to make his own way and for ten successive terms taught school in different districts. In 1869 he settled in Hatfield township, and since 1872 has been conducting a large farm. Mr. Rosenberger has always been a very active Republican and has held office of a local nature for many years. He was a school director for one term, and in 1890 was a delegate to the Republican State convention at Harrisburg. A few years after settling in Hatfield township he was elected assessor and filled that post for eighteen consecutive years. In 1889, after serving twelve years as assessor, he was re-elected to this office for three years and received every vote that was polled at that election. His long term of service as assessor, has made Mr. Rosenberger acquainted with every man, woman and child in the district and familiar with every lot of ground, its dimensions and ownership.

Mr. Rosenberger was married to Catharine Allebach, in October 3, 1868, and their union was made happy by the advent of eight children. They are: David, deceased; Mary Ellen, wife of Frederick Hunsberger; Harvey; Jacob, deceased; Allen; Edwin, deceased; Erwin and Lizzie Martha. The family, like their ancestors, are strict members of the Mennonite church.

Mr. Rosenberger has been a very considerable collector of books on a wide range of subjects, and possesses a good working library. He is a constant reader and one of

the intelligent and well informed men of his community. He is a close student of public questions, as well, and familiar with county, State and national issues. Although he never served an apprenticeship in the mechanical arts, yet he evinces marked inventive genius as an artisan. He has invented, draughted and constructed many devices and machines of merit which have not been patented.

THOMAS D. ABRAHAM, a paper manufacturer of Abrams, is a son of Joseph and Ann (Davis) Abraham, and was born January 12, 1839, on the old honestead in Upper Merion township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania. He was reared on the farm, attended the township common schools until fourteen, then completed his studies at Rev. Samuel Aaron's seminary, Norristown, Pennsylvania.

In 1850 he became the owner of the saw and grist mill, which he operated in connection with his farm until 1878. In 1880 he enlarged and remodeled his mill and changed it into a paper mill, with a capacity of 4,000 pounds of binders and box board paper per day. He manufactured a good article in his special line of paper, which he ships to market over the Philadelphia and Reading railroad. His farm, consisting of thirty-three acres, at Abrams, this county, is two miles above Bridgeport, at Merion station, on the Reading railroad.

He secured the establishment of the post-office there by the name of Merion, but it was changed to its present name of Abrams a few years later. He has served continuously as postmaster ever since. Mr. Abraham is a staunch Republican and an active member of the First Baptist church, of Norristown since 1851.

On November 24, 1859, Mr. Abraham was united in marriage with Emily R. Scott, a daughter of George Scott, of Norristown, Pennsylvania, who died April 19, 1880, in her forty-seventh year. Four years after her death, on January 18, 1884, he married Mary M. Rambo Pechin, a daughter of Daniel and Hannah Eastburn Rambo, of Upper Merion township. By his first marriage Mr. Abraham had seven children, five sons and two daughters: Elizabeth (deceased), aged seven years; George S., William L., Elwood P., Walter S., Howard and Ethel, who died in infancy, like her elder sister.

The Abraham family is among the oldest families in the State. Isaac and Sarah Abraham came from Wales in 1682 and settled in Bucks county, from which their son, James Abraham, sr., came to the site of Merion about the year 1700. Near there he purchased the old homestead that has always been in the possession of his descendants, and is now owned by James Abraham.

His son Isaac Abraham wedded Dinah Harvard, and their son, James Abraham, jr., married Hannah George, and was the father of Joseph Abraham, who was born on and inherited the old homestead. Joseph Abraham was born December 31, 1788, and died March 25, 1850. He was a farmer by occupation, a Democrat in politics and a Baptist in religious faith and church membership. He was industrious and respected and married Ann Davis, who was a daughter of Benjamin Davis, and died March 30, 1873, aged seventy-four years. Their children were Mrs. Hannah Shannon, Mrs. Sarah Phillips, James, Ben-

jamin D., Isaac G., Thomas D. (subject), Mrs. Eliza Supplee, Mrs. Anna Evans, Emma Matilda and Joseph, who died in infancy.

JOSEPH E. GILLINGHAM, a leading business man of Pennsylvania, whose country seat, "Clairemont," in Lower Merion township, Montgomery county, is one of the handsomest in the southeastern part of the State, is a son of Samuel H. and Lucy (Eddy) Gillingham, and was born in Philadelphia county, Pennsylvania, July 6, 1830. The original progenitor of the Gillinghams in America was Yeamans Gillingham, who came over about the time of Penn's first voyage to his province. Yeamans Gillingham settled first at Frankford, near Philadelphia, and afterwards removed to Bucks county, where he died. A lineal descendant of his was Joseph Gillingham, the paternal grandfather of the subject of this sketch, Joseph Gillingham was a resident of Philadelphia, where he was engaged in the wholesale mercantile business. He also managed a large farm "Bellevue," which he owned, near Holmesburg, this city. He was the first president of the Lehigh Navigation company, and with two others formed the company which brought the first coal by water to Philadelphia. He was prominent and active as a Whig and Friend, and died May 3, 1867, aged eighty-seven years. He married Rebecca Harrold, a native of Bucks county, and of the ten children born to them in their Philadelphia home, one was Samuel H. Gillingham, who became one of the early extensive lumber dealers of Pennsylvania. He resided in Philadelphia, was a man of good education and organized the lumber firm of Wainwright & Gillingham, of which he was the active and managing member. He was active in other lines of business besides lumber dealing, and served as president of the Kensington Gas company. He was a Whig and Republican and served as a member and as president of the Philadelphia school board. His life was one of activity in various useful fields, and he passed away February 15, 1854, when he had but reached the half century mark. In 1827 he married Lucy Lewis Eddy, who was a daughter of George Eddy, of Philadelphia, and died September 1, 1836, aged thirty-three years. Her earliest American ancestor was Ellis Lewis, a Welsh Quaker, who came over in the neighborhood of 1685 to 1690. Of the eight children born to Mr. and Mrs. Gillingham, five died in infancy. The three who grew to maturity and are still living are: Joseph E., Louis H. and Fanny, wife of Dr. Jarrett Kibbey, of Michigan, and by his second marriage, Frank C. Gillingham.

Joseph E. Gillingham was reared in his native city and received his education in the Friends' grammar and high schools of Philadelphia. Leaving school he spent five years at Carrollton, Carrollton county, Ohio, where he had charge of a large general mercantile establishment. The death of his father then caused him to return to Philadelphia, where he has been in the lumber and other lines of business ever since. He was one of the founders and is now president of the veterinary department of the University of Pennsylvania. He is a member and the president of the Gillingham & Garrison lumber company, which has its plant, consisting of mills and yards, in Kensington, and at Brockport, Elk county, Penna. This company does a very large and extensive business. About 1875 Mr. Gillingham purchased his present hand-

some country seat of "Clairemont," in Lower Merion township, where he resides during a portion of each year.

August 23, 1864, Joseph E. Gillingham married Clara Donaldson, a daughter of Jacob and Maria Donaldson of Philadelphia.

Mr. Gillingham is an Independent Republican in politics, and while a Friend or Quaker by birth and education, yet is an attendant of the services of the Episcopal church. His life has been one of constant, earnest business effort, and his labors in one of the important business enterprises of his city have been both marked and successful, while his clear perception and good judgment have made him serviceable in various commercial undertakings of large scope and general importance. He is president of the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal company, vice-president of the Philadelphia Investment company, chairman of the finance committee of the Mortgage Trust company, of Pennsylvania, and a director of the American Fire Insurance company, of Philadelphia. He is also a manager of the Pennsylvania hospital, and was a commissioner to the Vienna Exposition from Philadelphia.

HOWARD BOYD, of Norristown, is a son of Col. James and Sarah (Jamison) Boyd, and was born at Norristown, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, January 1, 1855. James Boyd, a lawyer of ability and standing, married Sarah Jamison, whose father, Samuel Jamison, was an extensive manufacturer of Norristown. They had three children: Robert, Hon. Wallace J., and Howard, the subject of this sketch.

Howard Boyd was reared at Norristown, and upon the completion of his education entered his father's law office and assisted him until he retired from active practice. He then continued with his father in numerous business interests of the latter, who was president of three railways and several industrial and business companies. His careful attention, diligence, and business ability recommended him at an early age to the leading men of various railway and industrial companies and he was offered several responsible positions. In June, 1876, he was elected secretary and treasurer of the Swede's Ford Bridge company, and on May 14, 1879, treasurer and secretary of the Norristown Junction railroad company. Mr. Boyd is also chief clerk to his father, and has been for some years a director in the Norristown Insurance company, Norristown Water company, Gas company, and other local enterprises. He is a Republican in politics, but no politician, and devotes his time chiefly to his business duties and his personal affairs.

On September 20, 1882, Howard Boyd was united in marriage with Mary Slingluff, a daughter of John Slingluff, president of the Montgomery National Bank of Norristown. To Mr. and Mrs. Boyd have been born two children: James S. and John H.

Mr. Boyd is secretary and treasurer of the Philadelphia, Newtown and New York, the Perkiomen, and the Stony Creek railway companies.

HENRY C. BIDDLE, one of the active business men of Ambler, is a son of Joseph C. and Elizabeth (Cook) Biddle, and was born in Gwynedd township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, October 7, 1841. The Biddles are of Welsh nationality, and

William Biddle, the paternal grandfather of the subject of this sketch, was a native and resident of Bucks county, where he married and reared a family. His son, Joseph C. Biddle, the father of Henry C., was born in February, 1802, and became one of the foremost farmers in his section of the State, taking prizes at several county and State fairs as a plowman. He resided successively in Horsham, Whitpain and Gwynedd townships, and then purchased a farm in Whitemarsh which he left fourteen years later to become a resident of Ambler. He purchased a residence there, and died at that place in December, 1884, aged eighty-two years. He was a prominent Republican and active member of the Reformed church, and held numerous responsible township offices, and was an official in his church, as well, for many years. He wedded Elizabeth Cook, who is still living, and whose father, Henry Cook, was a resident of Whitemarsh township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania. To their union were born ten children: Mary, wife of Charles L. Hoove, and Amanda, wife of Edward B. Renear, both deceased; Henry C.; Ross, deceased; William; Charles; Davis, deceased; Sanders L.; George; and Frank.

Henry C. Biddle was reared in Gwynedd, Whitpain and Whitemarsh townships, and after attending the public schools, took a course at Prof. John W. Loch's academy at Norristown. Leaving the academy he was engaged in teaching for two years near Lansdale, now Upper Gwynedd township, and then married and leased in Whitpain township, two farms aggregating two hundred and twenty-five acres, belonging to Saunders Lewis, of Philadelphia, which he cultivated continuously and successfully for twenty-seven years. At the end of that time, in 1893, he purchased property at Ambler and became a member of the present real estate firm of Buchanan & Biddle. This firm does a large and profitable business in their borough and the surrounding county. Mr. Biddle has been interested for quite a number of years in the material progress of Ambler. He was one of the founders of the First National bank of Ambler, of which he served as a director for eight years. He was one of the incorporators of the Ambler Building and Loan Association, in which he has served continuously as a director since its organization in 1873. His interest in agriculture did not cease with his embarking in different lines of work, and at the present time he is a member of Cold Point Grange No. 606, and the Pennsylvania State Grange of the Patrons of Husbandry. He is a Republican in politics, has been an ardent worker for the party since the period he attained his majority, and frequently served as a delegate to county and State conventions.

On October 16, 1867, Henry C. Biddle married Amanda K. Brownholtz, a daughter of Henry Brownholtz, of Upper Dublin township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania. To their union have been born five children: Lewis, Clark, Laura D., Warren G., and Minnie G. All are living except Minnie and Laura.

Henry C. Biddle is an active member of the Reformed church at Blue Bell and has officiated as a deacon in that church for a number of years. He has been a successful farmer as well as a good financier, and was the third subscriber, in order of succession, to countenance the project of organizing the First National bank of Ambler, Pennsylvania, of which he is now one of the largest stockholders. In 1894, Mr. Biddle purchased a farm in Whitemarsh

township known as the Brownholtz homestead (one of the oldest in that section), which he has since let by lease. He was also one of the organizers of the Cold Point Grange in Plymouth township, Montgomery county, in 1875, and has been an incumbent of nearly all its offices.

DANIEL S. SCHULTZ, Esq., who has been a justice of the peace at Lansdale since 1893, and who is one of the most successful insurance men of that section of Montgomery county, is a native of this county and is descended from German-American ancestry. He is the youngest son of Michael and Rachel (Snyder) Schultz, and was born on his father's farm in Towamencin township on the 6th of September, 1856. George Schultz, his grandfather, was born in Upper Hanover township, December 20, 1781, and was a prosperous farmer all his life. In politics he favored the Whig party and afterwards the Republicans, and in religious belief he clung closely to the Schwenkfelder church, the faith that is followed by the family to this day. He married Hannah, daughter of Melchior Schubert, and this marriage was made happy by the birth of seven children: Michael, Anthony, Rebecca, Solomon, Nathan, Mary, wife of Samuel Kriebel, and William. Grandfather Schultz died October 29, 1851, at the age of seventy years.

Michael Schultz, father of Daniel, was born on July 13, 1814. He attended the public schools of his vicinity and worked on his father's farm. He learned the trade of shoemaker, and followed this in connection with farming. In politics he was a Republican. He married Rachel, daughter of Abraham Snyder, April 20, 1841, and they had seven children: Mary, born February 5, 1842; Hiram, born October 3, 1843; Abram, born October 27, 1845; Hannah, born September 21, 1847; Franklin, born November 9, 1890; Addison, born February 5, 1853, and Daniel S., our subject.

'Squire Schultz went to the schools of the neighborhood and then had the advantage of two terms in the North Wales academy. After leaving school he followed teaching for one term, and for five years following was employed in the creamery in Upper Gwynedd township. He has always been an active politician of the Republican party, and has held the office of justice of the peace since 1893. He was elected assessor three times in Upper Gwynedd township and has been auditor of the borough of Lansdale six years. Besides being justice of the peace Mr. Schultz represents the Royal Insurance company, of Liverpool, England; the Home, of New York, and the Spring Garden, of Philadelphia, and does a very large business in this line.

Fraternally Mr. Schultz is a member of Council No. 934, Junior Order United American Mechanics, and also of the Order of the Mystic Chain. He is also a member and the secretary of the Lansdale fire company and is secretary of the North Penn Building and Loan Association and clerk of the borough council.

On the 23d of April, 1881, Mr. Schultz was married to Matilda, daughter of Joseph Hallmeyer, of Towamencin township. Mrs. Schultz was born in Allentown, Pennsylvaniania, on May 4, 1862. Four children have come to bless this union: Irvin, born August 19, 1883; Minnie, born September 27, 1887; Mary, born December 23, 1890, and Harry, born February 19, 1894. The family are members of the Schwenkfelder

church, and 'Squire Schultz commands the respect and esteem of the people of the community in which he lives.

JOHN J. HUGHES, farmer and live stock dealer, is one of the best known men in Montgomery county, popular as a companion and respected and esteemed in the business world. Mr. Hughes was born at Gulf Mills, Upper Merion township, on January 12, 1830, and has resided at that place all his life. He is a son of Benjamin B. and Mary (Rambo) Hughes.

John Hughes, grandfather, a son of Colonel Isaac Hughes, was born at Walnut Grove farm, Upper Merion township, March 28, 1772. Here he grew to manhood amid the customary surroundings of a farm lad, and when he reached his majority, succeeded to his father's estate. He successfully pursued farming and lime-burning for many years. Walnut Grove forms a part of the original tract of nine hundred acres taken up through a land patent by one of the original progenitors of the Hughes family. When toward the meridian of life, John Hughes acquired an interest in certain coal lands located in Schuylkill county, this State, and removed his family to that county, retaining a residence for several years. Subsequently he gravitated to Philadelphia, where he lived in retirement up to the time of his death, December 31, 1837. At the time of his demise he was sixty-six years old.

Mr. Hughes was a man of many sterling qualities, pleasing in manner, affable and congenial as a companion. He was a man of business sagacity, good judgment, and always a substantial friend and promoter of the cause of popular education. He served as a member of the Pennsylvania house of representatives from his district in 1814, and gave the fullest consideration to the will of his constituency. His religious predilections were in favor of the Episcopal church, of which body he was a member. He married Hannah, a daughter of Captain Benjamin Bartholomew, of Chester county, Pennsylvania, by whom he had the following named children: Rachel B., Isaac Wayne, and Benjamin B.

The father of our subject, Benjamin B. Hughes, was born at Walnut Grove, and resided in Upper Merion township until he was forty years of age. He received an ordinary common school education and then learned the tanning trade, which however, he never followed. He, instead, engaged in quarrying stone for a year, and then went to farming and lime-burning on a portion of his father's estate at Walnut Grove, having purchased his brother's interest. He was very successful and for some years attended the markets. It was well known that the farm covered a rich bed of iron ore and Mr. Hughes leased the property to James Hooven, who mined the ore. Mr. Hughes retired from active business and went to Bridgeport, which he made his place of residence. He had amassed considerable wealth and invested it in numerous enterprises, among which were valuable coal mines near Pottsville. He was also a director of the Montgomery bank for a number of years, and was a director of the First National bank until his death. He was a man of prominence in his community and being a true philanthropist, was loved and respected by all. In politics he was first a Whig and then a Republican. He was active in politics and was one of the county auditors during Governor Hartranft's term of office. He also served as school

director for a number of years and took a great interest in educational matters. An Episcopalian in religious belief, Mr. Hughes was an earnest church worker. For a period of fifty-two years he was senior warden of Christ's (Swede's) Church, in Upper Merion township. In 1829 he married Mary Rambo and they were the parents of ten children: John J., our subject; Dr. Isaac W., of West Philadelphia; Nathan Rambo, deceased; Mary A., wife of Hubert O. Blackford; C. Collin, deceased; Henry C., a veteran of the late war, who served as first lieutenant of company B, 4th Pennsylvania volunteer infantry; Hannah B., deceased; Katherine D., wife of E. W. Evans; William Corson, and Francis Wade, who is dead. Mrs. Hughes died August 20, 1856, aged forty-seven years. On August 17, 1858, he again married, his second wife being Miss Mary J. Brooke. There was no issue to this marriage. Mr. Hughes died March 11, 1892, aged eighty-four years.

John J. Hughes was given a common school education in Upper Merion township, and then attended Rev. Samuel Aaron's private school. On leaving school he assisted his father for one year in burning lime. He then took up farming and began to deal in cattle, a business he has followed with great profit ever since. He is interested in several other business enterprises and has been vice-president and director of the People's National bank of Norristown, ever since its organization. Though an earnest Republican, Mr. Hughes has never held office. He is a consistent member of Christ's (Swede's) church, of which he is vestryman. Socially Mr. Hughes is very popular. He has been a noted fox hunter and his large estate has been the scene of some exciting "meets." He was considered the leader in this sport in the county, and always kept a large and well trained pack of hounds. Some of the "meets" held at his home have been attended by over one hundred and fifty riders.

In 1857 Mr Hughes and Miss Hannah Brooke were joined in wedlock, and the following children came to bless this union: J. Hunter, Mary, wife of Winfield L. Stacker; Nathan B, Benjamin B., Frances H., wife of J. Cloud Smith, of Norristown; and Charles C.

GEORGE W. SMITH who owns and operates a large marble cutting establishment at Norristown, is a son of Peter and Hannah (Wanderlick) Smith, and was born in Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, December 6, 1837. Five generations back the immigrant ancestor of the family came from Germany to Perkiomen township, where his son, John, was born and died. John Smith was a farmer and a man of considerable means for his day. He was a zealous Lutheran and a strong Democrat, and was twice married. By his first wife he had six children: Peter (father), Mary Rankin, Barbara Miller, Elizabeth Miller, Daniel and John. By his second marriage with Margaret Hillegas he had four sons and four daughters: Henry, Uriah, Samuel, Philip, Susanna, Sarah, Catharine and Louisa.

Peter Smith (father) followed farming for many years in Perkiomen township, while he also did a considerable amount of teaming before the advent of the railroad. Near the close of his life he removed to Philadelphia, where he died at forty-three years of age. Like his father before him, he was a

Democrat and a Lutheran. He wedded Hannah Wanderlick. Their children were: John, George W. (subject), Amelia Wanderlick, Kate Erdman, Maggie Knipe, and Henry, deceased.

George W. Smith was principally reared in Philadelphia, where he attended the city public schools and several subscription schools, but at an early age was taken from school. After leaving school and working at various places in the city, he became an apprentice to a marble cutter with whom he served five years and three months. Completing his trade he worked as a journeyman until 1859, was then in the marble business for himself for a short time, and afterwards resumed journey work which he followed up to 1867. In that year he became foreman in James Moyer's marble shop, which position he held for several years. He then purchased Mr. Moyer's shop and engaged in business for himself, enlarging the shop and yards with his increasing patronage until he has now a large and well equipped marble cutting plant. His yards are on DeKalb street, and he frequently employs as high as twenty-five cutters and hands in order to fill his orders for work. He does all kinds of monumental and ornamental stone work which is to be seen in numerous cemeteries and on many well appointed and tasteful lawns. He is a skillful workman, and has a large trade.

In July, 1859, Mr. Smith married Anna Shipman, whose father is Jacob Shipman. To their union have been born four children, one son and three daughters: Amy W., Annie E., Matilda, deceased, and George S.

Mr. Smith is a member of Aurora Lodge, No. 465, Independent Order of Odd Fellows; and a charter member of Buena Vista Lodge, No. 16, Ancient Order of Good Fellows, in which he has served as treasurer for nineteen years. Mr. Smith is a stockholder and director in the Norristown Electric Light company, and has been interested in other home enterprises.

CHRISTIAN SPEAKER, foreman of the carpenter department of a leading rolling mill of Conshohocken, is a son of Yerkes and Catharine Speaker, and was born August 30, 1837, in that section of Denmark that is now part of the present territory of Prussia. His paternal grandfather was a sea-faring man, and his father, Yerkes Speaker, lived and died in his native country of Denmark, where he was a bricklayer by trade. He was a member of the Evangelical Lutheran church, and died aged seventy-nine years. He married and reared a family of six children, four sons and two daughters: Yerkes, Hans, Christian (subject), Nelson, Wilhelmina and Ann Maria.

Christian Speaker was reared in his native country and learned with his father the trade of bricklayer, which he soon abandoned to take up ship building. At twenty-one years of age he came as ship carpenter on a vessel that stopped at Philadelphia, with which city he was so favorably impressed that he made it his residence. Soon after making Philadelphia his home he became ship carpenter on the emigrant packet ship *Tonawanda*, which plied between the "Quaker City" and Liverpool, England, and was on board when that vessel was captured by the celebrated Confederate cruiser, *Alabama*. After being released by the Confederate commander of the *Alabama* he returned to Philadelphia and abandoned a seafaring life. Turning his

attention to carpentering he was employed at various places until 1869, when he removed to Conshohocken, where he has resided ever since. His first employment at the last named place was at day carpentering with J. W. Wood & Brother, who were contractors. He was soon promoted, and held various positions up to 1883, when he was appointed to his present position. Mr. Speaker is a Republican in political affairs, and has been serving for some time as a member of the borough council from the Fifth ward. He is a stockholder and a director of the Guarantee Building and Loan Association, of Conshohocken, in which he has been interested for several years.

In 1864 Christian Speaker was united in marriage with Maggie Hovelow. Their union has been blessed with eight children, five sons and three daughters: Kate Kreider, Harry, Anna Bates, William, Ida, George, Horace and Theodore.

EDMUND B. NUSS, a leading contractor and builder of Conshohocken, is a son of Captain Frederick and Sarah (Slater) Nuss, and was born near Broad Axe, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, December 8, 1827. His paternal grandfather was a resident at the site of Lafayette Station, on the Schuylkill river, where he was engaged as a shoemaker. He was a member of the Lutheran church, of which he was a regular attendant. He married, and reared a family of two sons: Captain Frederick and Michael. Captain Frederick Nuss was born in 1790, in Whitemarsh township, and learned the trade of shoemaker with his father, Afterwards he became a carpenter and wheelwright and erected many large mills and dwellings. He was a staunch Republican and a regular attendant of the Lutheran church in which he served as leader of the choir. He was a member of the Township Benevolent association at Broad Axe and served in a militia regiment in the second war with Great Britain, for which services he afterwards received a pension. He also served as captain of a military company for several years. In 1818 he married Sarah Slater, a daughter of John Slater, who owned a fine farm of one hundred and thirty acres near Broad Axe. Captain Nuss died after reaching the ripe old age of eighty-four years. He reared a family of eight children: George, John, Henry, Edmund B., William, Samuel, Elizabeth and Ann. Mrs. Nuss passed away February 7, 1867.

Edmund B. Nuss, after receiving a good common school education, engaged in agricultural pursuits until he became eighteen years of age, when he learned the trade of carpenter, which he followed at Conshohocken, where one of his contracts was the repairing of a large rolling mill. He was a large contractor and at times had as high as eighty men in his employ. The many mills that he has erected are well constructed and display good mechanical skill. Mr. Nuss is a supporter of the Republican party, in the success of which he has always been deeply interested. In 1888 he was elected burgess of Conshohocken, in which capacity he served one year, and for thirteen years he was successively elected as judge of the election. He is a member of Lodge No. 120, Free and Accepted Masons, and Lodge No. 216, Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He is also a charter member of Iron Castle No. 62, Knights of the Golden Eagle, and at one time was a member of the Improved Order of Red Men. He is a member of the Lutheran church.

On January 24, 1853, Mr. Nuss married Anna M. Ulrick. To their union have been born six children: Willard, deceased; Milton, an engineer; Edmund B., a tinner; George, an engineer; William; and Laura Stemple. All the sons except William are married and he resides in New Jersey, where he pursues the trade of joiner.

WILLIAM H. HUNSBURGER, M. D., a rising young physician of Pennsburg, Montgomery county, is a son of Wm. E. and Amelia (Guldin) Hunsburger, and was born June 16, 1869, in Berks county, Pennsylvania. The paternal grandfather of Dr. Hunsburger, was Samuel Hunsburger, a member of the Society of Friends and a native and life long resident of Chester county, Pennsylvania. He married a lady whose maiden name was Eckert, and five children were born to their union: Jesse, John, Sarah, Samuel and Mary.

William E. Hunsburger, father, was born in Chester county, and was educated in the schools of Pottstown, this county, of which schools he afterward became principal. Having determined to enter upon the study of medicine he registered as a student in the office of Dr. Buskirk, of Pottstown, and after a thorough preliminary drill and study, entered the Jefferson Medical college, Philadelphia, from which he graduated in 1867. He located at Maiden's Creek, in Bucks county, where he has remained ever since, actively and successfully pursuing the work of his profession, and has built up a large and appreciative practice. He is a thorough student of medicine and keeps well abreast the medical progress of the age. He is a member of the Berks county medical society and takes an active and intelligent part in all its deliberations and is a valuable member of the fraternity. Politically a Republican and religiously a member of the Reformed church, he takes a normal interest in the body politic and the work of evangelization and has been the organist of the church to which he belongs ever since becoming a member. His marriage with Amelia Guldin has resulted in the birth of several children.

Dr. Hunsburger received his primary education in the schools of his native township and still further broadened his mental training by study in the Kutztown State normal school at Kutztown, this State. He then took up the study of medicine under the preceptorship of his father and graduated from the Jefferson Medical college in 1893. He then practiced for three months with his father and at the end of that time came to Pennsburg where he has since remained and built up a large and constantly increasing practice. He is careful and painstaking in his diagnosis, is a hard student and well versed in the modern methods of treating diseases, qualities that have combined to make him one of the rising young physicians of Montgomery county.

On April 25, 1895, he married Katie O'Mull, a daughter of Dr. John G. Hillegas whose sketch appears elsewhere in this volume.

JOHN H. GRIFFITH, of Conshohocken, who endured the terrible privations and sufferings of Andersonville for six months, is a son of James and Elizabeth (Davis) Griffith, and was born in Upper Merion township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, April 8, 1844. His paternal grand-

father, John Griffith, was of Welsh origin and a native of Radnor township, in Delaware county. He married Phoebe Pugh, whose grandfather, Peter Dusey, had feet so frozen at Valley Forge, under Washington, that they had to be amputated. John Griffith, after his marriage, came to near Gulf Mills, in Upper Merion township, where he afterwards died. He was a Whig, followed various employments, and reared a family of fifteen children, among whom were: Evan, Jonathan, James, John, William, Jacob, Joseph, Henry, Anna Austin, Eliza Thompson, Hannah Lacy, Sarah Hand, and Mary McNeil. Of these children, but four are living: James, and three of the daughters. James Griffith was born in Tredyffrin township, Chester county. He received no advantages of the subscription or common schools of his day, being compelled at twelve years of age to commence to do for himself. He went on a farm to work and after attaining his majority, came to Gulf Mills, where he has been engaged in various industrial pursuits ever since. He was formerly a Whig, and now a Republican in politics. He wedded Elizabeth Davis, and to their union have been born seven children, two sons and five daughters: Margaret Beggey, John H., Alice Berry, Maria Richter, Phoebe DeHaven, Frank, deceased; and Clara Fickler.

John H. Griffith received his education in the public schools of Upper Merion township, and at twelve years of age commenced working on a farm, which employment he followed for four years. He then learned the trade of butcher, at which he worked from 1860 to 1862. In 1862 he entered the Union service, and after returning from the army in 1865, he became an employee in Wood & Company's rolling mill, where he remained five years. After leaving the rolling mill he was successively engaged in butchering, running a meat and provision store, and in the natural ice business. In 1892 he became a member of the Gulf Brewing company. In politics Mr. Griffith is a Republican. He has served as burgess, and as president of the town council of Conshohocken. He is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and Washita Tribe, Improved Order of Red Men. Mr. Griffith is a self-made man, whose success in life has all been of his own winning.

On May 21, 1866, Mr. Griffith wedded Miss VanDyke. They have seven children: James H., a clerk in the recorder's office; Robert, who holds a position in a railroad office, at Roanoke, Virginia; Roxanna, wife of Robert Elliot; Thomas, Elizabeth, Clara, and Frank.

John H. Griffiths' war record is one of which he may be justly proud. He enlisted in Company B, 8th Pennsylvania reserves, on August 15, 1862, and participated in the engagements at Williamsport, Brandy Station and Locust Grove, and in the battle of the Wilderness. He was captured in 1864, and was successively confined at Orange Court House, Gordonville, Danville, Andersonville, Florence, Wilmington and Goldsboro, at which latter place he was paroled on March 27, 1865. Returning home after eleven months of prison life, he so far recruited his health as to join his regiment in a few weeks, and was honorably discharged from the Federal service at Harrisburg, this State, in June, 1865. His terrible prison experience was at Andersonville, where, unprotected under the burning southern sun and with hardly anything to eat, he endured untold suffering for six months. Of the thirty thousand prisoners at Andersonville during his stay, fourteen thousand seven hundred died of privation and star-

vation, and he was one of the fortunate number that survived the horrors of that death-pen, whose history is one of the darkest chapters of the late Civil war.

HORACE G. J. HALLOWELL, a druggist of Conshohocken, and a scion of an old and highly respected family of Montgomery county, is a son of William and Matilda (Preston) Hallowell, and was born January 20, 1851, in Conshohocken, this county. He is of English Quaker origin and his paternal grandfather, Nathan Hallowell, lived for many years at Swedesburg, this county, where he died. He was a man of enterprise and for many years was an officer in the Schuylkill Navigation company. His children were: Charles, deceased; Nathan, a son that died young; Martha; Ann, deceased; and Elizabeth.

William Hallowell, father, was born in Conshohocken, spent his boyhood days in the town of his nativity, where he obtained a fair common school education. He learned the trade of a carpenter and developed more than ordinary constructive skill as a contractor and builder, following this line of work in connection with undertaking in Conshohocken until 1893, when he retired from active business pursuits. He is a Republican politically, and for six terms served as burgess of his native borough, and in addition to this held other local offices in the municipality. In his earlier life he was a member of the Society of Friends, but after marriage became a Baptist, the church with which his wife affiliated. He has been twice married. His first union was with Miss Thomas, and resulted in the birth of one child, Charles T., who is a clergyman of the Baptist denomination. He wedded as his second wife Matilda Preston, and five children, two sons and three daughters, blessed this marriage union. The oldest died in infancy, and the others are: Horace G., subject; Hannah; Ella; and Matilda.

Horace G. J. Hallowell attended the common schools of Conshohocken and Treemount seminary at Norristown, and then, having in view a business career, entered Bryant and Stratton's business college of Philadelphia, from which he graduated in 1868, and five years later graduated from the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy, and the following year took a clerkship in the store of James T. Shimer, a druggist of Philadelphia, where he remained four years. In 1874, having thoroughly mastered the prescription feature of the drug business, and gained a good practical education in this line, he established a drug business in Conshohocken on the corner of Fayette street and Fourth avenue, where he has remained ever since, and through close application and courteous attention to his customers, has built up an enviable trade.

He has been twice married; on October 2, 1873, to Ella Miller, and after her death to Anna O'Brien, daughter of Michael O'Brien. The latter union has been blessed in the birth of four children: Maurice B.; Madeline; Helen, deceased; and Walter.

LEWIS AUCHY is a son of John and Catharine (Groff) Auchy, and was born in 1837 in Upper Salford township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania. There he grew to manhood, receiving a good common school education. He worked on the

farm until seventeen years of age, after which he learned the trade of shoemaker. Removing to Norristown about 1858, he followed his trade for a time, and later engaged in the mercantile business. In the latter pursuit he was successful and continued it for some fourteen years, after which he went into the poultry business, and has continued the latter down to the present time.

In 1861 Mr. Auchy was united by marriage to Susanna Van Winkle, and to them was born a family of three children,two sons and a daughter: Mary K., Harry, deceased in infancy, Harry 2d. Politically Lewis Auchy is a Republican, and in religion a member of the Baptist church. He served two weeks in the emergency corps in 1863, when Lee invaded Pennsylvania, but never participated in a battle. For years he has been connected with a number of secret societies, including the Senior Order of American Mechanics, in which he has passed all the chairs, and is now a member of the State council and a trustee; and Montgomery Lodge, Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

The family from which Mr. Auchy is descended have resided in this county for several generations. His paternal grandfather, John Auchy, was a well known farmer of Upper Salford township, a Democrat in politics and a member of the German Reformed church. His son, John Auchy (father), was born on the old homestead in that township, and in early life learned the trade of tailor. He worked at his trade until his marriage, and then abandoned it to devote himself to agricultural pursuits in his native township. Adhering to the religious and political traditions of his ancestors, he was a Democrat and a member of the German Reformed church. By his marriage to Catharine Groff he had a family of four children, three of whom were sons: Abram, Sophia, who married Abram Rice; Lewis and Joseph. John Auchy died in 1846, and his wife survived him some years.

EPHRIAM K. LEIDY, merchant, miller and farmer, of Zieglersville, is a native of Montgomery county, and comes from Revolutionary stock. He was born on a farm in Frederick township, on November 19, 1841, and is a son of Philip and Elizabeth (Krause) Leidy. His great-great grandfather emigrated from Germany and located near Frederick post office. He was one of the first settlers of Frederick township, and was the first Reformed preacher in this country. One of his sons, Philip Leidy was a farmer and lived on the old homestead. He was one of the first patriots to take up arms for the new country and served with distinction through the dire and bitter war of the Revolution. His father combined farming with preaching and was a man of superior intellectual ability and attainments. He established the Reformed church at Swamp and filled that pulpit for many years.

Ephraim's grandfather was Samuel Leidy. He was a farmer and lived at Frederick post office all his life. He was a member of the Reformed church of that place. In politics he was a Democrat. His marriage to Marrius Hannah Schwenck was blessed with nine children: Sophia, the wife of Peter Harburger, is deceased, and her daughter is wife of Major D. B. Hartranft; Captain Henry Leidy, resides at Boyertown, Berks county, at eighty years of age. He was a merchant and huckster and

was the captain of a company of cavalay prior to the war. His son-in-law is Dr. Rhoades, president of the Boyertown bank, whose son, Dr. Thomas, is a practicing physician at that place; Philip, the third child is the father of Ephraim; Daniel is dead; Hannah; Peter, is a retired farmer and resides at "The Swamp;" Jesse, is in the marble business at Hatboro, Pennsylvania; Sarah, now deceased, was the wife of Mr. Reifsnyder, who resides in the West; Samuel was killed while serving his country in the late war of the rebellion.

Philip Leidy, father of Ephraim Leidy, was born on the old homestead farm and at the proper age was sent to gain a common school education. After spending some time on the farm he engaged in the huckster business, but afterward became the proprietor of a hotel at Cross Keys, and later at Roxboro. Subsequently he operated the farm of Philip Krause, his father-in-law. He exchanged his farm for the Zieglersville flour mills, and at the time of his death resided with his son, the subject of this sketch. He was a Democrat and a deacon and elder in the Reformed church. Fraternally he was a member of the I. O. O. F., and O. U. A. M., and remained very active to the time of his death. He was the father of six children as follows: Philip; Valeria, who died young; Lavinia, wife of Emanuel Brendlinger, a hotel keeper at Roxboro. He died July 15, 1895, aged seventy-nine years and eighteen days, his wife had preceded him to the grave in 1891, at the age of seventy-five years.

Ephraim Leidy received a thorough education in the common schools of the day at Roxboro, and then spent some time at several academies. He then learned the trade of miller and was employed as a journeyman at Zieglersville until 1871, when he commenced the operation of the Grubb's mills on Swamp Creek. Later he removed to Chester county, thence to Royersford. In 1879 he returned to Zieglersville mill, which he successfully operated until 1886, when it was destroyed by fire. The following year he rebuilt the mill and has continued its operation ever since. In connection with the mill, Mr. Leidy continues the business of flour and feed merchant and baling hay for the trade. He also works a farm of thirty acres near Zieglersville. In politics he is a Democrat, but is not active in the work of the party at present.

Mr. Leidy was married November 19, 1869, to Anna, daughter of Lewis Beaver, and their union was blessed with four children, only one of whom is living: Alvin, who married Ellen Swissford, and who assists his father in the milling business; Willard, Anna, and Lillian are all dead.

Mr. Leidy is a widower, having lost his wife on October 29, 1886, in her 35th year. The family were all members of the Reformed church.

ELLIS C. CRIPPS, proprietor of one of the largest grocery houses in Conshohocken, this county, is a son of William B. and Amelia (Murray) Cripps, and was born at Cherry Hill, Cecil county, Maryland, March 19, 1856. The Cripps family is of German origin, and its immigrant ancestor in America became a resident of the State of Delaware, in whose early history some of his immediate ancestors figured conspicuously. Benjamin Cripps, the paternal grandfather of Ellis C. Cripps, was born at Shellpot, New Castle county, Delaware. He was a miller by trade, and removed to a farm in Cecil county, Maryland, which he after-

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wards left to become a resident of Wilmington, Delaware, where he died. He married and they reared a family of children, one of whom, William B. Cripps, was the father of the subject of this sketch. William B. Cripps was born at Shellpot, Delaware, and died at Conshohocken, aged seventy-five years, He was a carpenter by trade, but after his marriage purchased a farm in Cecil county, Maryland, and built a paper mill. He afterwards resided at Wilmington, Delaware, and later came to Conshohocken, where he lost his sight two weeks before his death. He was an energetic and active business man, a Democrat in politics and a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

Mr. Cripps was twice married. His first wife's name was Amelia Murray. By his first marriage Mr. Cripps had eleven children, four sons and seven daughters.

Ellis C. Cripps received his early education in the public schools of Wilmington, Delaware, and at twelve years of age entered a grocery store in that city, which he soon left. He was variously employed for a short time, and then became an apprentice in the printing office of the *Every Evening*, where he remained for four years. Completing his apprenticeship he worked for a short time on the *Evening Herald*, and then in November, 1880, came from Wilmington to Conshohocken. His first employment there was as a clerk in Samuel Yerkes' grocery, where he remained for eighteen months. In 1882 he started in the grocery business for himself on West Hector street, and soon purchased the grocery store of Thomas Robinson, on Second street, where he did business until 1883. On June 6, of that year, Mr. Cripps purchased his present place of business. His grocery house is a three story structure, 26x30 feet in dimensions, and he carries one of the heaviest and best selected stocks of groceries in the county. He employs five salesmen and runs two delivery wagons in order to meet the wants of his patrons. Mr. Cripps eleven years ago commenced the manufacture of "Cripps' Home-made Mince Meat," an article so popular and in such demand that the factory for its manufacture has been enlarged and is now operated by a steam engine.

Ellis C. Cripps is a Prohibitionist in politics and a supporter of the Methodist Episcopal church. He is a member of Washington camp, No. 121, Patriotic Order Sons of America, and the Brotherhood of the Union. He takes an interest in whatever pertains to the growth of his borough. He is a member of the Progress Building and Loan association and a director of the Fidelity Building and Loan association.

ALBERT A. HOOPMAN, M. D., is a young physician of Hatfield, this county, who in a very few years has built up a large practice in that vicinity and who has deservedly gained an enviable reputation in his profession by reason of the fact that he has been a hard student and very thorough in securing that knowledge and experience which is likely to place him in the front rank of practitioners in this county.

Dr. Hoopman is descended from old Revolutionary ancestry and was born in Maryland, on November 4, 1864, being the son of Jacob W. and Susan E. (Gordon) Hoopman. His grandfather, Jacob Hoopman, was a farmer by occupation. He owned and successfully operated a farm of one thousand acres, and was one of the most prominent planters of his time. He was a

Whig in politics and changed to the Republican party when his favorite ceased to exist. He was a Methodist in religious belief and was a zealous worker in the cause. He was married twice and the father of six children: G. C.; Wesley; Rachel; Lizzie; Kate and Jacob W. He died in May 1856.

Jacob W. Hoopman, father of Dr. Hoopman was given a common school education. He then learned farming and followed this business all his life. He is a Democrat in politics and a hard worker in his party. A member of the Methodist church, he is an active and zealous supporter of its institutions and especially takes great interest in the Sunday school. He belongs to but one secret organization, being a member of Aberdeen Lodge, I. O. O. F.

He was married and is the father of only two children: S. V., who is a physician; and the subject of this sketch. He is still living and is sixty-five years old.

Dr. Arthur Hoopman was given the opportunity of securing a first class education and he did not neglect to take advantage of it. After leaving the public schools he took a course at the Baltimore Business college. He then entered the Baltimore Medical college and graduated in medicine at the age of twenty-three years. He afterwards had his diploma endorsed at the Philadelphia Medical college. For a period covering four years Dr. Hoopman was employed in the Baltimore hospital and then on June 18, 1889, located in Chester, where he began the active general practive of his profession. He was successful there, but four years later found a wide and more congenial field at Hatfield, Montgomery county. Dr. Hoopman is extremely thorough in every branch of his profession, and he has successfully passed examinations before the boards of medical examiners of four States, and also studied pharmacy during the time he was active in his practice.

Dr. Hoopman has become very popular in his locality and has an extensive and lucrative practice. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and also a member of the I. O. O. F. He is unmarried.

J. R. ALLEBACH, merchant of Green Lane, this county, was born in Lower Salford township, this county, October 27, 1846, and is a son of Christian G. and Sarah (Reiff) Allebach.

Of German ancestry, grandfather David Allebach was one of the substantial and thrifty farmers of Skippack township, Montgomery county. David Allebach was an early supporter of Whigism and an ardent believer in the dogmas of the Menonite church. He wedded Helena Gottshalk, and four children were born to their union: Jacob, David, Christian and Henry.

Christian Allebach, father, was born in Skippack township, March 20, 1806, was reared upon the paternal acres, where he remained engaged in agricultural pursuits until 1832, when he removed to Lower Salford township, in the same county, where he spent the remainder of his days, dying in September, 1887, at Kulpsville. Politically he was a Whig, but upon the disruption of that party became a Republican. He was a man who believed it the duty of every citizen to exercise the duties of the elective franchise, but aside from holding local offices was in no sense a politician or an officeholder. From 1827 to 1867 he missed but one election. He was a good citizen, one who gave the weight of his influence to every move which had for its object the promotion of the public weal,

was active in building a private school in his neighborhood and was a trustee and elder in the German Reformed church organization at Kulpsville.

He married Sarah Reiff, and they became the parents of three sons and three daughters: Anna, David, died in infancy; Sophia, deceased; Helen, Benjamin, J. R., subject.

J. R. Allebach attended the common schools and received a rudimentary education. He was schooled in the arts of husbandry, but when a young man learned the trade of a miller at Swenksville, and for four years operated on his own account the Hunsburger mill at that place. On February 1, 1874, he removed to Green Lane and purchased the mercantile establishment of J. H. Steltz, and has since enlarged and expanded it to meet the demands of a constantly increasing trade, until he now has one of the largest and most complete general stores in this section of the county. Mr. Allebach is a Republican politically, and is at present serving as a member and as treasurer of the school board of the borough of Green Lane, is treasurer of the borough, and from 1874 to 1893, a period of nineteen years, served as postmaster of his town. He has been actively and prominently identified in a number of financial institutions of the county. In 1873 he helped to organize the Green Lane National bank, of which institution he became a director, remaining in that capacity until it was removed to East Greenville. He is still a heavy stockholder in the same. He was one of the organizers and one of the first directors of the Royer's Ford National band, but resigned. He is also interested as a stockholder in the Tradesmen's National bank at Conshohocken, People's National bank at Norristown, Spring City National bank, Perkiomen National bank at East Greenville, Norristown Title and Trust company, and owns much valuable real estate in Green Lane and vicinity.

On February 1, 1868, Mr. Allebach married Lizzie Gosholp, of Schwenksville, and two children, Harvey and Ezra, blessed this marriage. Mrs. Lizzie (Gosholp) Allebach died on December 30, 1871, at the age of twenty-seven years, and Mr. Allebach took as his second wife Mrs. Sarah Gable, and to this marital union were born four children: Anna, Laura, wife of Dr. H. H. Scholl; Markley, deceased, and Curwen. By his third marriage one child was born.

The maternal grandfather of Mr. Allebach was Benjamin Reiff, who was born in Lower Salford township, this county, in 1777. He was a thrifty farmer of the township of his nativity, farming four hundred acres of land, and was prominent in the political, religious and industrial history of the community. Politically he was a Democrat and served as a member of the Pennsylvania legislature in 1833 and as a justice of the peace a number of years. He was a member of the German Reformed church, to the support of which he gave liberally of his time and money. He was a man of recognized judgment and strict integrity, qualities of head and heart that caused him to be frequently sought after as guardian, administrator and executor, and many other positions of honor and trust, and in every case showed himself worthy of the confidence reposed in him. He married in 1796 Anna Crall, of Upper Salford township, and the following were among the children born to their union: John, Michael, William, Jacob, Sophia, Sarah and Elizabeth. This family is noted for its longevity, most of its members living to be eighty years of age.

JONAS U. CASSEL, the proprietor of the Cassel livery stable of Norristown, is a son of Joseph H. and Lucetta (Undercuffler) Cassel, and was born in Worcester township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, January 16, 1846. He received his education in the common schools of his native township, and remained with his father on the farm until he was twenty-two years of age. He then went to Norristown, where he was engaged for four years in the livery business with his father-in-law, Solomon Long, whose interest he purchased at the end of that time. Enlarging his stables and purchasing an adjoining lot, his livery, sales and boarding stables have now a front of eighty feet and a depth of one hundred and sixty feet. He keeps eleven head of driving and riding horses, and has built up a good patronage. In addition to his livery business, Mr. Cassel has engaged in other enterprises very profitably, and holds stock in the People's bank, the Excelsior Building and Loan Association, and the Adam Scheidt Brewing company. He owns a good residence on Astor street, and a store property and four acres of land at Norritonville, besides two small farms one at West Point and the other in Lower Merion township. Aside from business life in which he has been successful, he takes considerable interest in political affairs. He is a Democrat, and has served as a member of the town council from the Second ward for three years. He has frequently been a member of the election board at his ward voting polls.

On New Year's day, 1867, Mr. Cassel wedded Maggie S. Long, a daughter of Solomon Long, then a resident of Culpsville, this county. Mr. and Mrs. Cassel have one child.

Jonas U. Cassel is of German descent. His paternal grandfather, Benjamin Cassel, was born and reared in Worcester township where he lived during the greater part of his life. He was a farmer by occupation, and the large tract of land which he owned is now divided into four farms. He was an old line Whig politically, and resided near Boyer's Corner, now Norritonville. He was twice married, and by his first wife he had eight children. Joseph H. Cassel was born in Worcester township, where he was reared on the home farm and attended the schools of his neighborhood. He followed farming for some years in his native township and removed to Whitpain township where he still pursued farming until late years. He then retired from all active pursuits of life, and has since resided on his farm. Mr. Cassel has been twice married. His first wife was Lucetta Undercuffler. By his first marriage Mr. Cassel had seven children, five sons and two daughters: Isaac, Jonas, U. (subject), David, Daniel, Anna Detwiler, Amanda Seifert, and Jeremiah, who died at three years of age.

The Cassel family is one of the early families of Montgomery county. In 1734 Yellis and Hupert Cassel were landholders in Perkiomen township, and Abraham H. Cassel, the antiquarian, is a member of the family whose descendants are now to be found in several of the townships of the county, where their ancestors were prosperous farmers and reliable citizens.

EDWIN METCALF, the well known florist of Norristown, is a son of Edward and Sarah (Chapman) Metcalf, and was born in 1848, at Howgate, Yorkshire, England. The authentic ancestral history of the Metcalf family runs back to 1026,

and is traced in later generations through William Metcalf, great-great-grandfather of the subject of this sketch, Richard Metcalf, (great-grandfather), and Sir Edward Metcalf (grandfather), to Edward Metcalf (father), who was a florist and fancy fruit grower by occupation, and resided on the old homestead in England all his life. He was a conservative in politics, and married Sarah Chapman, by whom he had seven children: William, Elizabeth (died in childhood), Martha (also deceased at an early age), Richard, now a resident of Brooklyn, New York; Ann, Edwin, and Alfred, a barrister in England. The father died in 1880, at the age of eighty-four, and the mother passed away during the same year, aged eighty-two.

Edwin Metcalf remained in his native land until he had reached the age of twenty years, being graduated meanwhile from the college of Nasboro, Whitby and Eaton. He then entered the Academy of Fine Arts in London, where he was graduated in free-hand drawing, after which he took a two year's course in civil engineering at Oxford University. He then began the business of a civil engineer, and was employed for a time in that capacity on the Great Northwestern railway. Later he took a trip through the Holy Land and penetrated Africa, after which he came to America, and in 1868, located at Norristown, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania. Here he formed a partnership with his brother in the business of a florist, but two years later removed to Philadelphia, and entered the employ of the North Pennsylvania Railroad company, with which he remained for another two years. At the end of that time he became manager of the lithographing establishment of Potts, Damen & Co, of Philadelphia, and later entered the employ of the National Bureau of Engraving, as a steel plate engraver for the government. He was thus employed for a period of fourteen years, when he was compelled to resign on account of failing eye-sight. In 1888 he returned to Norristown, and resumed the business of a florist, which he has ever since successfully conducted.

In 1884 Mr. Metcalf was married to Mattie Davis. To them were born three children, all daughters: Elizabeth V., Edna G. (now deceased), and Elsie G.

In politics Mr. Metcalf is an ardent Republican, taking an active interest in public affairs, and at the last election was a candidate for councilman from the Fourth ward, and was elected. He is a member of Curtis Lodge, Independent Order of Odd Fellows; of the Hephtasophs of Linwood, and of the First Presbyterian church, of Norristown. The property owned by the Metcalf family in England was granted to them by the great Commoner, Oliver Cromwell, at the time he bore sway over the British Isles, and has ever since descended in an unbroken line of inheriance.

MILTON R. KURTZ, ex-burgess and the present coroner of Montgomery county, is a son of Solomon and Louisa (Reed) Kurtz, and was born January 25, 1854, in Norristown, this county. Like most of the earlier families to settle in Montgomery county, his ancestors were of German origin. His paternal grandfather, Michael Kurtz, lived near Boyertown, Berks county, and was a huckster by avocation. He possessed that thrift and frugality that are characteristic of the German race and was financially successful. He married a Miss Brendlinger and they became the par-

ents of the following children: Solomon, John, Michael, Augustus, Isaac, and Charlotta. Of these but three are living, Augustus and the two girls. Michael Kurtz died at the age of seventy-five years.

Solomon Kurtz, father, was born, reared and educated in the northern part of this county. He learned the trade of cabinet maker which he followed during the earlier part of his life; later he took up carpentering and stair building. In 1873 he came to Norristown, where he resided the remainder of his life. He always voted with the Democratic party on all questions of national moment, but was inclined to be independent on local political issues. In religious matters he subscribed to the doctrines of the Lutheran creed. He was twice married, his first union was with Sarah Shaner, and after her death he wedded Louisa Reed. Two children, Milton R., and Mary M., blessed this marriage.

Mr. Kurtz first began the battle of life on his own account as a clerk in a tobacco store at Norristown. He filled a clerical position three years and then embarked in a tobacco business on his own account on the corner of Marshall and Barbadoes street, remaining there until 1892, when he transferred his place to Main street, but soon returned to his former stand where he is at present located.

He is a staunch Democrat, is active and influential in the work of his party. During the years 1890, 1891 and 1892 he served as burgess of the borough of Norristown, and was rightly estimated as a careful, judicious and efficient executive officer, carefully guarding every interest of the borough and lending his efforts to every measure which had for its object the progress and prosperity of the town. During the latter part of his second term he was nominated and elected to the office of county coroner of Montgomery county for a term of three years. In addition to the above offices he served seven years as assessor of the First ward of Norristown.

In fraternal circles he stands high. He is a member of Montgomery Lodge, I. O. O. F., Tecumseh Tribe I. O. R. M., Washington Camp P. O. S. of A., and the Fairmount Hook and Ladder company of the Norristown fire department.

His marriage on May 5, 1879, to Clarissa A., a daughter of Jesse and Susan Nestor, has resulted in the birth of the following children: Edwin G., Solomon, Mattie, Katie and Lulu.

WILLIAM VAUGHAN, a retired business man of Norristown, is the eldest child and only son of David and Margaret (Hallowell) Vaughan, and was born at Norristown, October 27, 1833. David Vaughan, father, was born and reared in Wales, where he learned the coal mining business. When a young man he left his native country and emigrated to America, landing at Philadelphia about 1825. From Philadelphia he walked to Pottsville, but being unable to find work there, started to return to Philadelphia. When he reached Norristown he stopped at the house of a farmer named Cowden, and after telling his story, was offered employment and went to work threshing for Mr. Cowden. From that he began digging wells, and soon found all the work he could do. He accordingly settled in Norristown, where all the remainder of his life was passed, and where he died in 1876, at the advanced age of sixty-seven years. He followed the business of putting down wells nearly all his life,

and most of the old wells in this section are his work. He was a Whig and Republican in politics, and in religion a primitive Methodist. In connection with John Supplee, he built the old Methodist church, Main and Arch streets, which was the first erected in this section of the State. It is now used as a factory by the Norristown Woolen company. Mr. Vaughan was also a temperance worker. In 1832 he married Margaret Hallowell, and they reared a family of five children: William, Sarah, Inez, Martha and Elizabeth. Mrs. Margaret Vaughan died in 1870, aged sixty-seven years, the exact age attained by her husband. Their remains are interred at Norristown.

William Vaughan grew to manhood in his native borough and has resided in Norristown all his life. He was educated in the public schools, and has improved his acquirements by a course of general reading. When ten years of age, he began working on a farm at Eagleville, and later entered the woolen mill then owned by Mr. McCurdy, but now known as the Simpson mill. When nineteen years of age he then learned the trade of painter and paper hanger with Louis McAfee, and worked at that business until 1872. He then began contracting and building, and during the next three years erected some fifty buildings in and around Norristown. In 1875 he embarked in the ice trade, purchasing the business of the Enterprise Ice company, which had been organized in 1869, by George Zennel. This enterprise he conducted until 1887, when he retired in favor of his only son, David Vaughan, who has since operated the business under the old name, Enterprise Ice company.

Politically William Vaughan is a Republican and has been active in local politics. He represented the Tenth ward in the borough council for two terms, serving as chairman of the committee on streets and roads for three years, and as chairman of the committee on regulations for two years. He was also a member of the committee on ways and means, and of several other committes. He is a member of Linwood Lodge No. 154, Ancient Order United Workmen, and served for a time on the emergency corps during Lee's invasion of Pennsylvania in 1863.

On January 6, 1856, Mr. Vaughan was married to Margaret Long. To this union was born two children: David, now proprietor of the Enterprise Ice company, of Norristown; and Clara, who died August 9, 1894.

J. S. NICE is one of the most successful merchants of Harleyville. He is a brother of G. S. Nice, whose sketch appears elsewhere, and is the son of J. M. and Kate (Shoemaker) Nice. He is a native of Harleysville and was born there March 10, 1866. He received a common school education and afterward attended the Sumneytown academy for one session. He left school at the age of eighteen years and went to Philadelphia, where he became a clerk for John Jamison. Leaving here he returned to the country and worked at farming for three years. At the end of this time Mr. Nice left the farm and engaged in the general store business at Harleysville, and was in partnership with his brother for five years. He then made another change, selling his interest in the general store and opened a bakery and ice cream parlor. He also manufactures ice cream for the wholesale trade, and as a wholesale confectioner has been very prosperous, doing about

$13,000 worth of business every year. This is certainly a splendid showing for so young a man, and his energy, probity of character and enterprise have placed him in the front rank of the prominent business men of his county.

Mr. Nice, like his father and other relatives, is a Republican and takes a leading part in the party work of that section. He is an active Christian and is a member of the Mennonite church. He is also very prominent in Sunday school work and is one of the most active members. Mr. Nice has been married twice. His first wife was Miss Mary Godshall, only child of Isaac Godshall. They had one son Howard, who was born on December 6, 1889, and who died February 20, 1890. Mr. Nice's second wife is Miss Sallie Landis, daughter of Samuel R. Landis. One child has come to bless this union, a daughter named Katie, who was born March 3, 1893.

The Nice family is one of the oldest in this section of the county and has always been prominent in local affairs. The present representatives of the family, including the subject of this sketch, are well calculated to perpetuate the fair fame of the family.

DR. CHARLES H. DETWILER, the proprietor of the Central hotel, Royersford, Pennsylvania, is a native of Montgomery county, and was born May 2, 1865. His parents, Enos H. and Mary J. (Heyser) Detwiler, are also natives of this county, the father having been born on the old Detwiler homestead in 1835. He secured a good common school education and then engaged in farming, which he has successfully conducted all his life. He owns the old homestead, and is widely knows as among the most prominent agriculturists and business men of the county. His mother was born in 1802, and is still living, now lacking only seven years of being a centenarian. Enos H. Detwiler has served as school director for a number of years. He was one of the originators and a member of the building committee of Spring Garden market in the city of Philadelphia, and has served as treasurer of the Market company ever since its organization. He is also a director of the National bank of Royersford, and has been a lifelong member of the Lutheran church, of which he has served as treasurer and deacon for nearly a quarter of a century. He married Mary J. Heyser.

Dr. Charles H. Detwiler was reared on the farm and secured his elementary education in the public schools. He subsequently entered the State Normal school at West Chester, and afterwards took a course of training at Pierce's Business college in the city of Philadelphia. In 1887, he entered the Toronto Veterinary college at Toronto, Ontario, Canada, from which institution he was graduated in 1889 with the degree of V. S.

For the space of five years Dr. Detwiler practiced his profession, principally in Montgomery and Chester counties, Pennsylvania. In 1890 he purchased the Central hotel property at Royersford, this county, and embarked in the hotel business. This hotel is a large three-story structure, containing twenty spacious rooms and it has been remodeled and many architectural improvements have been added by Dr. Detwiler. It is now heated by steam, lighted by electricity, abundantly supplied with hot and cold water, and is in every respect a model hotel.

On February 17, 1891, Dr. Detwiler was married to Alice Stauffer, a daughter of Frank Stauffer, of Berks county, Pennsylvania. To the Doctor and Mrs. Detwiler have been born two children, both sons: Marion S. and Russell S.

Politically, Dr. Detwiler is not a partisan and has never taken any active interest in public issues. He is a member of the Lutheran church, as is also Mrs. Detwiler, and has been an active and earnest Sunday school worker all his life, first as a scholar, and later as a successful teacher.

RICHARD H. BATE, junior member of the firm of William T. Bate & Son, proprietors of the extensive Montgomery Boiler and Machine works at Conshohocken, and one of the most prominent citizens of that place and Montgomery county, is a son of William T. and Elizabeth George Bate, and was born May 23, 1845, in England.

In 1847 his parents emigrated to this country and settled at Liberty, Maryland, where he received his first nurturing in school. Subsequently his parents removed to Norristown and there furthered his education in the public schools of that place up to 1859, when he gave up the employments of school to pursue a more practical vocation, and accordingly indentured himself to learn the blacksmith and boiler-making trades in the Norris Iron works at Norristown; his father at that time being superintendent of the works. He remained employed at his trades in this establishment up to 1865, at which time having thoroughly mastered his trade and at the same time become familiar with every detail of the boiler and machine-making branch of mechanics, he then became associated in business with his father under the firm name of William T. Bate & Co. This firm first consisted of William T. and Richard H. Bate and John Wood, jr., and was established for the manufacture of boilers and general machinery and located at Conshohocken. In 1868 this partnership was dissolved, Mr. Wood retiring, and the firm was re-organized under the title of William T. Bate & Son, and the present extensive Montgomery Boiler and Machine works were built for the manufacture of boilers, gas apparatus, iron and brass castings, gasometers, gore barrels, castings, and all kinds of blacksmithing and machine work. The firm had made a small beginning in 1865, but the business tact and energy of the several members, coupled with their practical knowledge, soon won for the firm prestige and a wide and well-deserved reputation, with a consequent increase of trade extending to all parts of the country, employing a large force of men. In the manufacture of boiler and steam generators, and the same may be said of most of their products of manufacture, they have been using their own patents. As their business has developed and extended, they have increased their facilities by the erection of new buildings as the rapid growth of their business required, until now the establishment has a capacity, when running full, of 100 men. Some of their patents have been of a very important character and have received very creditable mention in the various scientific journals of the country, and have proved in their application and actual use to be of high merit and valuable contributions to mechanical inventions.

Since the re-organization of the firm in 1868, Richard H. Bate has taken a very

active part in all matters pertaining to the business, assisting in the general management of the manufacturing department as well as the trade. By strictly conscientious and fair methods of dealing with the trade and all who come in contact with him, Mr. Bate has been a potent factor in the establishment of their extensive and permanent business and has won for himself a prominent place in the manufacturing and commercial world. As a citizen, he has always been progressive and public-spirited, and has therefore been influential in the public enterprises of Conshohocken. Politically, Mr. Bate has always been a firm advocate of the principles of the Republican party, and has always taken an intelligent interest and active part in the advancement and success of that party. Though he has never aspired to public or remunerative office, he is at the present time ably representing the third ward of his borough in council. Mr. Bate has been chiefly active and useful in the direction of industrial enterprise, being prominently identified with most of the business enterprises of the borough brought forward for its development and general prosperity. Besides his extensive manufacturing interests, he is a director of the First National bank of Conshohocken; director in the Conshohocken Electric Light company; a director and managing superintendent of the Conshohocken Gas company, and a heavy stockholder in both of the above enterprises; he is also a stockholder in the Conshohocken Water company, in addition to holding interests in various other business ventures of lesser importance. His aid and influence have been lent to every movement almost, which has for its end and object the promotion of the general welfare of the people of his town and county.

On the 30th of August, 1867, Mr. Bate was united in marriage to Mary M. Murray, a daughter of Jacob Murray, a prominent citizen of Norristown. To this marital relation have been born seven children, four sons and three daughters: Tillie; Alice, deceased; Howard M.; Richard; Anna; Wilmer M.; and John, deceased, who died April 12, 1887, at the age of six years. On October 24, 1889, Alice Bate was married to Mr. A. J. Pennington, a manufacturer of surgical supplies, located at Bridgeport, Pa. Within a year after her marriage she suddenly died. Mrs. Pennington had been the assistant librarian of the Methodist Sunday school of Conshohocken, and was an ardent Sunday school worker and a zealous Christian woman. Her Sabbath school attended her funeral in a body and assisted in the last sad services of laying to rest one who had been beloved by all who knew her.

Mrs. Bate is a descendant of one of Montgomery county's oldest and most respectable families. She is the granddaughter of Mrs. Elizabeth Thompson, who had the distinction of celebrating her one hundredth birth-day anniversray, November 14, 1877. Mrs. Thompson was the mother of eleven children, and at the age of one hundred years was in the possession of all her faculties with the exception of a somewhat impaired hearing. She took great delight in relating to her descendants at this notable gathering her recollection of General Washington. On one occasion during his term as president, General Washington en route through Plymouth township stopped at the Black Horse hotel, on which occasion Mrs. Thompson, then a young girl, had the honor of handing him a drink of water and shaking hands with the "Father of his Country."

Of her eleven children only three were living at the time Mrs. Thompson celebrate her one hundredth anniversary: Mrs. Earl, Mrs. Murray, mother of Mrs. Bate, and Mrs. Wightman, all of whom were widowed.

JOHN BOOTH, a member of the cotton manufacturing firm of H. C. Jones & Co., of Conshohocken, was born near Chester city, in Delaware county, Pennsylvania, February 4, 1856, and is a son of James and Agnes Booth. While the Booth family is of English origin, yet the American branch was founded by John Booth, who came from Scotland to New York city, where he resided continuously up to his death. He married and had two sons. One of these sons was James Booth, the father of the subject of this sketch. James Booth was born at Paisley, Scotland. He learned the trade of weaver in his native country, and at twelve years of age came with his parents to this country. They remained in New York city, but he soon removed to Delaware county, this State, where he entered the Bancroft cotton mills, in which he worked for several years. He afterwards resided at Manayunk, this State. He was a Republican in political sentiment, and wedded Agnes Colquehourer. To them were born four sons and six daughters: John (subject), Isabella, Jeannette (dead), James, Jasper, Maggie Scott, Mattie, Louisa and Emma (both deceased), and Robert.

John Booth was reared in Delaware county and received his education in the schools of Darby and Chester city, and a night school at Manayunk, this State. At fourteen years of age he became an apprentice in the weaving department of a cotton mill at West Manayunk, and after completing his apprenticeship worked steadily at weaving until 1883. In that year he became a member of the firm of H. B. Hill & Co., of Philadelphia, and was engaged in the manufacture of Turkish towels in that city for six months. He then sold his interest in the business, and on April 1, 1885, became a partner in the firm of H. C. Jones & Co., of Conshohocken. Mr. Booth acts as general manager and superintendent of their mills. Their plant comprises all the necessary buildings for successful manufacturing in their special lines of business. They employ a force of one hundred hands, have a yearly output of over one hundred thousand dollars worth of goods, and sell their products readily in the general markets of the country. Mr. Booth supports the cardinal principles of the Republican party, and of late years has been particularly active in political affairs. He is a member of the Union Republican league, and represents the Third ward in the town council. He is a member of Fritz lodge, Free and Accepted Masons. Active and diligent in his business affairs he has won success, and is now prominent in his special line of manufacture.

On January 18, 1884, John Booth was united in marriage with Jane H. Taylor, whose parents, Thomas and Sarah Taylor, are residents of Frankford, Philadelphia. To Mr. and Mrs. Booth have been born three children: Mabel (deceased) Marion and Olive.

EBER HESTON LOBB, a successful business man who is engaged with the Alan Wood company, of Conshohocken, is a son of Benjamin and Eliza (Hastings) Lobb, and was born in Brandywine Hun-

dred, near Wilmington, Delaware, March 22, 1855. He is of English extraction and obtained his education in the Tremount seminary. He afterwards attended Bryant and Statton's Business college, in Philadeldelphia. Leaving school he engaged with Alan Wood & Co., on September 2, 1872, as a shipping clerk, in which capacity he has remained ever since.

In politics Mr. Lobb is a staunch Republican. He belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, being a member of Gratitude Lodge, No. 216. He is a member of Washington Camp, No. 121, Patriotic Order Sons of America; Montgomery Circle, No. 10, Brotherhood of the Union, and Welcome Home, at Norristown.

On Christmas day, 1878, Mr. Lobb was united in marriage with Maggie Righter, a daughter of Michael Righter, of King-of-Prussia, Chester county. To their union have been born eight children: Benjamin, Frederick, Winfield T., William Cleaver, Howard, (dead), Marion, Eva and Emma.

Mr. Lobb is also engaged in settling up estates of which he has quite a large number to settle at the present time. He stands well as a business man and is known to be an honest citizen in his community.

Benjamin Lobb (father) was a native of Delaware, where early in life his property was burned. Afterward he was employed by Alan Wood & Co., of the same State, but in 1857 he came with this firm to Conshohocken, where he remained until his death 1889. Here he became foreman in the mill and was one of the most skilled mechanics that were in the employ of the company. He was a Republican in politics and adphered to the Society of Friends. He was a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and for many years a member of the Red Men at Conshohocken.

He married Eliza Jane Hastings, and their family consisted of five sons and one daughter: Eber H.; Benjamin F., (dead); John; Alan Wood, (dead); Matthew, and Jennie.

Benjamin Lobb commenced life as a stable boy and pushed forward with enthusiasm and perserverance—two sure characteristics of success—and at the time of his death he had acquired about forty thousand dollars worth of property.

HOWARD Y. NEIMAN, M. D., a practicing physician of Pottstown, is a son of Frederick and Charlotte (Yargey) Neiman, and was born in Berks county, Pennsylvania, June 3, 1858. The Neimans are of German ancestry, the family being planted in America by the great-grandfather of Dr. Neiman, who was born and reared at Muhlenburg, Germany. In 1778 he emigrated to America and settled in what is now Montgomery county, Pennsylvania. When the Revolutionary war occurred, in 1776, he joined the American army and followed the standard of Washington until independence had been secured. He then returned to Pennsylvania, and resumed farming, and continued to reside on the old homestead until his death in 1820, at an advanced age.

Frederick Neiman, father, was a miller by trade, and followed that occupation all his life, in Berks county, this State. For many years he was a member of the State militia. He married Charlotte Yargey, a native of Berks county, and they reared a family of children. He was an ardent Democrat in politics and a member of the Reformed church, which he served for many years as deacon and elder. His death

occurred in Berks county, in 1883, at the age of seventy years, but his wife is still living, being now in the seventy-fifth year of her age.

Howard Y. Neiman was principally reared in Berks county, where he attended the public schools. He then entered Mount Pleasant seminary at Boyertown, and later became a student in the State Normal school at Kutztown. In 1876 he began the study of medicine with Dr. L. K. Francis, of Boyertown, and subsequently studied under Dr. John V. Shoemaker, of Philadelphia. Later he entered the Jefferson Medical college of Philadelphia, and after a three years' course, was duly graduated from that well known institution March 12, 1879, with the degree of M. D. In the same year Dr. Neiman began practice at Norristown, but eighteen months later removed to the west end of Montgomery county, where he remained until 1886. In the latter year he came to Pottstown and began the successful practice which he now enjoys. In addition to his large general practice, Dr. Neiman is one of the surgeons of the Pottstown hospital, and is highly regarded by all who know him. Dr. Neiman is a member of the Montgomery County Medical society, and of the Pennsylvania State Medical society. He is an earnest student of his profession and a careful reader of its best literature. He is a member and medical examiner of the Ancient Order of Foresters, and is also medical examiner for the Mutual Continental Life Insurance company, and physician by appointment, to the poor of the city. In the fall of 1894 he was also appointed on the board of officers of the Medico-Chirurgical college of Philadelphia. Dr. Neiman is a member of the Patriotic Order Sons of America, and of Conclave No. 153, Junior Order of Hibernians, of which latter he has been secretary for several years.

On the 7th of September, 1878, Dr. Neiman was wedded to Mary Bickel, a daughter of Samuel B. and Sophia Bickel, of Norristown. To them has been born one child, a son named Frederick B. The Doctor and Mrs. Neiman are members of the Reformed church.

RICHARD SOMIESKY, president of the Bramcote Manufacturing company, of Pottstown, is a son of Austin and Amelia Somiesky, and was born March 31, 1858, in the city of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The family is of Russian extraction, but have lived in this State for several generations. Austin Somiesky, father, was a tailor by trade, and worked at that occupation many years in Philadelphia. He died in 1877. His wife, who was of German ancestry, had preceded him in 1875, and they are buried in the Glenwood cemetery, Philadelphia.

Richard Somiesky received a good English education in the public schools of his native city, and afterwards took a special course in German. Later he began studying the art of photography under competent instruction, and devoted three years to a mastery of the principles of art as applied to the work of the camera. After completing his artistic studies and becoming familiar with the possibilities and limitations of photographic processes, Mr. Somiesky engaged in the business of photography in Philadelphia for one year, and subsequently carried on the same enterprise at various towns in this State. In 1883 he came to Pottstown and opened a gallery and studio, where he continued the busi-

ness until January 2, 1895, when he sold out. In January, 1894, he was appointed by Commissioner Erb to the position of transcribing clerk in the office of the county commissioners, and was reappointed in January, 1895, without any solicitation on his part. His duties have been carefully and conscientiously performed.

Mr. Somiesky has been president of the Bramcote Manufacturing company of Pottstown, for some time past. In May, 1888, he became a member of company A, sixth regiment, National Guard of Pennsylvania, and in 1890 was made first lieutenant of the company, which rank he still holds. He has been somewhat prominent in local politics, having held the position of Democratic committeeman from Pottstown district for more than three years. He is a member of the Mystic Chain, the Sons of America and Knights of the Golden Eagle, of Pottstown, of which latter organization he has been treasurer since 1885. He also served for two years as treasurer of the Sons of America, and was their district president for some time. In 1882 Mr. Somiesky was married to Mary E. Yocum, of Germantown, Pennsylvania. Their union has been blessed by the birth of two children: Albert C. and Florence C, both now attending the public schools of Pottstown.

WARREN S. BURGESS, a respectable and well known citizen of Norristown, is a son of G. W. and Sophia E. (Saurman) Burgess, and was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, July 28, 1828. The Burgess family is of English extraction, and the paternal grandfather of Warren E. Burgess was a native of Boston, Massachusetts. He reared a family of children, among whom were: William; Joseph; Caleb, who resides in San Francisco; George W.; Lucy; Sarah; and Catharine.

George W. Burgess was a native of the same city as his father, and became engaged in manufacturing whips and canes. Later he removed to Philadelphia, where he followed his trade for some time, and afterwards came to Norristown, at which place he resided until his death. He was a staunch Republican, and served as a member of an emergency company in the late Civil war. He married Sophia E. Saurman, and to this union was born one child, Warren S. Mr. and Mrs. Burgess both died at the advanced age of seventy-eight years.

Warren S. Burgess learned the trade of machinist while residing in the Quaker city, and at twenty-eight years of age removed to Norristown, where he now resides. After coming to Norristown, he worked at joinery work until 1880, and since then he has been engaged as a general machinist and electrical worker. He is superintendent of the borough electric plant, which he has been largely instrumental in building up. Mr. Burgess is a Republican in politics, and has always been interested in the affairs of his party.

He was united in marriage with Emma Wallace, and their union has been blessed with three children, two sons and a daughter: George, Sophia, and Lillian.

WILLIAM S. ELLIS, a member and treasurer of the Ellis & Lessig Steel and Iron company, limited, of Pottstown, is a son of Robert and Mary (Dunn) Ellis, and was born near Lewistown, Mifflin

county, Pennsylvania, June 3, 1841. His paternal grandfather was of Scotch descent, while his wife was of Welsh extraction. Robert Ellis was born and reared in Ireland, and in 1838, came to Mifflin county, where he followed farming. He died October 24, 1863. He was a Presbyterian and married Mary Dunn, who was a native of Ireland. Their children, nine in number, were: Thomas, Robert, James, John, William S., Jane, wife of James Neshood, of Minnesota; George, a soldier, killed at Sailor's Creek during the late Civil war; Catharine, married James Johnson, of Kansas City, Missouri, and now dead; and one child that died in infancy.

William S. Ellis was reared on his father's Mifflin county farm, received his education in the common schools, and in 1862, enlisted in company M, 16th Pennsylvania cavalry, commanded by Colonel John Irwin Gregg. He participated in all the battles of the army of the Potomac from Chancellorsville to Appomattox Court House, and was honorably mustered out of the Federal service in 1865. He went out as a private but was promoted to corporal for meritorious duty. After the war he was engaged in farming until 1872, in which year he came to Pottstown and embarked in the foundry business. He had a small machine shop attached to his foundry, which he operated until 1882. He then sold out, and in the following year organized the present Ellis & Lessig Steel and Iron company, limited, and commenced to erect the buildings of their present extensive plant. This company manufactures nails, plate-iron and puddle bars. They do a large and prosperous business, having a patronage that extends beyond the boundaries of the State. Mr. Ellis is a large stockholder of the company, and has served as treasurer ever since its organization. Besides manufacturing, Mr. Ellis takes an interest in industrial and other enterprises of Pottstown. He is a director of the Pottstown Passenger Railway company, and served for some time as president of the Pottstown Electric Light company, which he helped to organize.

On April 29, 1889, William S. Ellis was united in marriage with Mary Reed, a daughter of Alexander Reed, of Mifflin county.

Office seeking and office holding for emolument or for prominent position before the public has never had any attractions for Mr. Ellis, who however, believes in an honest and hearty support of his party. He is a staunch Republican and was one of President Harrison's electors from Pennsylvania.

JOHN G. SMYTH, an industrious and competent business man of Norristown, is a son of John G. and Martha (McClure) Smyth, and was born at Bridgeport, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, in 1835. His father was a native of county Tyrone, Ireland, where he was engaged in farming, until about 1842. He then came to this country and located on Chestnut street, Philadelphia. He was engaged in various industrial pursuits until 1844, when he removed to Norristown, where he was employed in a green-house, and afterwards became a brick worker. For some time he was engaged in manufacturing brick at Block House, Montgomery county, and in 1868 established a brick-yard at Norristown, where he was the first manufacturer to use a steam brick machine. In 1874 he retired from active business and purchased six

acres in what is now the Seventh ward. In politics he is a Democrat and has been an attendant of the Presbyterian church for years. He married Martha McClure and reared a family of four children: David N., Alexander J., John G., and Margaret J., deceased.

John G. Smyth received his education in the public schools of Bridgeport and also attended a seminary, where he took a thorough business course. He learned the trade of bricklayer with his father, and for twenty years was engaged as contractor and builder. He has employed as many as sixteen men at one time in his building contracts. He is a practical worker and thorough in the details of his business. Much of his work was done in the city of Philadelphia. Mr. Smyth is a member of the Presbyterian church and is a supporter of the Democratic party.

ELMER E. JOHNSON, M. D., a young practicing physician of Pottstown, was born December 4, 1863, at Applebachville, Bucks county, Pennsylvania, and is a son Dr. Benjamin K. and Rosa L. (Gotschalk) Johnson. Benjamin K. Johnson, M. D., father, is a native of Montgomery county, who has practiced medicine for many years at North Wales and Norristown, and has won considerable reputation in his profession. For a fuller account of him and his ancestors see his sketch elsewhere in this volume.

Elmer E. Johnson obtained his early education in the public schools of North Wales, this county, and then entered the State Normal school at Millersville. He afterwards spent one year at Horne's Preparatory school, Allentown, Pennsylvania, and then took a four years' classical course in Muhlenburg college, of that place, from which he was graduated in 1885. In the autumn of that year he matriculated in the medical department of the University of Pennsylvania, at Philadelphia, and after three years of diligent application was graduated from that institution in 1888 with the degree of M. D. He immediately began practice with his father at Norristown, this county, and remained there until 1889.

In the month of September of that year Dr. Elmer E. Johnson removed to Pottstown and began the practice of medicine and surgery in this city. He has become well known and popular and has built up a nice general practice, which is constantly growing.

In addition to his private practice Dr. Johnson is a member of the surgical staff of the Pottstown hospital and a lecturer in the Pottstown training school, his special subjects being physiology and anatomy. He is a careful reader and occasional contributor to some of the best medical journals of this country, and endeavors at all times to keep abreast of the progress constantly being made in the science of medicine.

In September, 1888, Dr. Johnson was united in marriage with Emma C. Bickel, a daughter of E. B. and Louisa Bickel, of Norristown, Pennsylvania. He and Mrs. Johnson are members of the Lutheran church, and for three years the Doctor has been president of the Luther League, a religious society composed principally of young people. Politically Dr. Johnson has never been active, preferring to devote his energies exclusively to his profession. He is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and of the Shield of Honor.

SAMUEL K. ANDERS, president of the People's National bank of Norristown, was born October 10, 1838, in Norriton township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, and is a son of George and Susanna (Kriebel) Anders. He grew to manhood on the old Anders homestead near Norristown, and was educated in the public schools of this county. After attaining his majority he engaged in agricultural pursuits on his own account, and successfully followed that occupation during a period of twenty years. He gradually interested himself in other enterprises, and in 1888 became president of the People's National bank of Norristown, a position he has continuously held to the present time. As a financier his course has been marked by sound judgment and conservative management, and to his ability and watchfulness is due in a large degree the success which has attended the business of this bank. Its affairs have been ably and intelligently conducted, and it has always enjoyed the confidence of depositors and the general public, being regarded as among the soundest financial institutions of eastern Pennsylvania. Several years since, Mr. Anders was elected on the Republican ticket, to which party he has always adhered, as a member of the board of county commissioners, and has been twice reelected to the same position. Bringing to the discharge of his official duties the same judgment and thoroughness that characterize his management of private business, he has promoted the public welfare and justified the public confidence reposed in his integrity and ability. At all times he has manifested an intelligent interest in political and civic affairs, has served as school director of his township, and by his public spirit and practical benevolence has contributed in many ways to the prosperity and well-being of his fellow-citizens. In religion he adheres to the faith of his ancestors and is a member of the Schwenkfelder denomination, with which body he was formerly connected in an official capacity.

In 1860, Mr. Anders was married to Mary A. Heebner, a daughter of David S. Heebner, now postmaster at Lansdale, Pennsylvania. To that union was born a family of four children, two of whom died in infancy. A daughter, Laura H., died at the age of sixteen, and the only one now living is George H., who is engaged in farming, near Norristown. Mrs. Mary A. Anders died September 16, 1881.

The family from which Mr. Anders is descended is of German extraction, but its history in the new world dates back to the colonial period, its American progenitor having emigrated to this country and settled in what is now Montgomery county as early as 1734. He and nearly all his descendants were members of the religious body known as Schwenkfelders. Benjamin Anders, paternal grandfather of Samuel K. Anders, was a native of Montgomery county, a farmer and shoemaker by occupation, and died in Worcester township. He was an old-time Whig in politics, and in religion a strict member of the Schwenkfelder denomination. He reared a family of several children, one of his sons being George Anders (father), who was born on the old Anders homestead in Worcester township, this county. After attaining manhood, George Anders also engaged in farming and followed that occupation all his life. His last years were spent in Anders township, where he died. His remains were interred at his former home in Worcester township, beside others of

the family connection. He was a man of great public spirit and excellent business habits, and accumulated considerable property, being regarded as one of the most substantial citizens of his section. He married Susanna Kriebel, also of German descent. To them were born eight children, only five of whom grew to maturity: Abram K., now deceased; Elizabeth, wife of A. H. Seipt, of Philadelphia; William K , deceased; Daniel K., now a resident of Denver, Colorado; and Samuel K., subject of the foregoing sketch. The other three died in infancy.

WILLIAM A. SHAFFER, the senior member of the large brick manufacturing firm of Shaffer Brothers, of Norristown, was born in the city of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, September 12, 1836, and is a son of George and Elizabeth (Whiteman) Shaffer. His paternal grandfather was born and reared in one of the States of the present German empire, and after attaining his majority came to Berks county, Pennsylvania, which he subsequently left to become a resident of Philadelphia. In that city he died well advanced in years. Their children were five in number.

George Shaffer was born near Reading, in Berks county, learned the trade of brickmaker with his father in Philadelphia, and subsequently became a resident of Norristown, where he worked in a brick yard up to the breaking out of the late Civil war. In the early part of that great contest he sought to enter the Unior service, but having served in the War of 1812 and being somewhat advanced in years he could not stand active service, and became a teamster in Peter Whiteman's wagon train. He served but one year and then died of brain fever at Hatteras, North Carolina. He had been ordered to North Carolina during Burnside's expedition into the tidewater region of that State. George Shaffer married Elizabeth Whiteman.

William A. Shaffer was reared principally at Norristown, where he received his education in the public schools, which he attended very irregularly on account of his services being needed at home to aid in the support of the family. He learned brickmaking with his father, who was an expert in that line of work, and followed his trade up to 1869. In that year he commenced brick manufacturing on a small scale on a lot between Powell and DeKalb streets, and some years later he and his brother, Levi R., opened a brick yard in West Norristown, which they operated for five years. They then removed to their present plant of twelve acres, which is just beyond the borough limits and in Norriton township. Mr. Shaffer and his brother, Levi R., do business under the name of Shaffer Brothers, and employ a force of forty-five men during their working season of the year. Their plant is thoroughly equipped with everything necessary for successful brick manufacturing, and their season output yearly is three million brick. Mr. Shaffer wedded Mary Carroll, a daughter of William Carroll, a native of England. To their union have been born three children: Cora J., wife of Walter H. Griffith, of Norristown; Edith M., and George W., deceased.

In addition to his interest in the brick plant Mr. Shaffer owns a good residence at Norristown and fifty building lots at that place on DeKalb, Powell and Willow streets. He is the first man who learned the full trade of brick maker at Norristown. He is

a reliable and energetic business man, and in politics takes but a nominal part.

William A. Shaffer is a descendant of that Shaffer family in Germany that furnished many emigrants to the early settlement of Eastern Pennsylvania. He is a relative of Dr. Nathan C. Shaffer, the State superintendent of public instruction of Pennsylvania.

ISSACHAR JOHNSTON, a thrifty and enterprising business man of Norristown, was born July 25, 1825, and is a son of Samuel and Deborah (VanWinkle) Johnston. His paternal grandfather was a pioneer hotel keeper in Plymouth township, near Hickorytown, being proprietor of what was known in that day as the "North Star Hotel." His children were: Samuel, born February 9, 1795; James, born July 10, 1797; Joseph, born October 1, 1800; Elizabeth, born November 7, 1802; Charles, born June 30, 1804; Isaac, born November 6, 1806; and Maria, born July 6, 1808.

Samuel Johnston was born in Plymouth township, obtained a fair common school education and then pursued for a time the avocations of a farmer, and later, other industrial pursuits, among them the mercantile business for a time at Springtown, this county. He was a great reader, keeping himself well posted on the current events of the day. A man of good judgment, he was elected to the office of justice of the peace, and for a term of five years dealt out equity, as between man and man, in a way that met the approval of all fair-minded men. He was a Republican politically, and religiously a member of the Society of Friends. During the latter part of his life he resided in Norristown, where he died on May 21, 1879, at the age of eighty-four years. He was twice married; he first wedded Deborah Van Winkle, of Holland Dutch extraction, and to them were born four children, of whom two grew to maturity: Joseph, who was a farmer of the county up to the time of his death on May 5, 1885; and Issachar, subject.

The education of Mr. Johnston was obtained in the subscription schools of Montgomery county. Following various pursuits in his earlier days, he finally purchased a small farm in Norriton township containing twenty-two acres, and engaged in gardening and small fruit raising. This he pursued with profit for a period of thirty-eight years. In 1889 he disposed of his farm and farming interests, through sale, to his sons, Isaac and Ambrose, and removed to Norristown, since which time his attention has been given to his real estate investments and other financial interests. He is largely interested in real estate in Kansas, where he owns sixteen hundred acres of land near Mead Center. His realty in Norristown is extensive and valuable and includes two fine brick houses and a square in West Norristown, in addition to a number of building lots. He is a director of the Montgomery Trust company, a heavy stockholder in the Philadelphia & Reading railroad company, the Albertson Trust company, and the Lehigh Valley railroad company.

On July 27, 1850, Mr. Johnston and Hannah, a daughter of George Arp, of this county, were made husband and wife, and four children bless this relation: Clarrissiana, who died December 14, 1880, was the wife of Allen Davis; Samuel, married Hannah Charles, and is now engaged in merchandising in Philadelphia; Isaac, married Harriet Wertzner, and is an agricul-

turist of Norriton township; Ambrose, wedded Sarah Michner, and is also a farmer in Norriton township. President Andrew Johnson was a known cousin of Samuel Johnston, the father of the subject of this record, a difference existing in the spelling of the name.

B. F. MOORE, of Culpsville, present justice of the peace, is a young man who has already gained for himself an enviable reputation in the neighborhood in which he lives, and such is his energy and ambition that it is safe to predict that his public career is not to be confined to a small area. He is a son of Eli and Amanda (Schuyler) Moore, and was born on the 13th of August, 1866. His paternal grandfather was a farmer by occupation and followed his plow to good purpose for many years. In politics he was a Democrat, though he did not take a very active part in political work. He was a life-long communicant of the Lutheran church, and a thorough Christian. He was the father of eight children.

Eli Moore, father of B. F. Moore, was given a common school education. He was a laborer by occupation, and was known and respected as an honest, upright man and a good citizen. He voted the Republican ticket, and was a member of the Lutheran church. He was also a member of Lansdale Lodge, I. O. O. F., and was twice married. The children of the first wife were Edward and James. The second wife gave him the subject of this sketch and Mary Ann. Mr. Moore is now dead, but his second wife still survives in good health.

'Squire Moore was given a very limited education, leaving the common schools when he was only fifteen years old. But he was ambitious for a better position in the world, and resolved to win an education for himself. This sturdy young lad of fifteen, therefore, went to work to earn money. He labored on a farm for two years and saved his money. With this little horde of savings he was enabled to attend the high school during five terms, and in that way qualified himself to become a school teacher. He secured a school, and has been teaching ten years, up to the present time. He is popular, and recognized as a man of ability and industry.

In political faith and practice Mr. Moore supports with energy the Republican party His worth was soon recognized, and he was promptly elected justice of the peace, an office he now fills to the entire satisfaction of the general public. 'Squire Moore married Miss Amanda Detwiller, daughter of Amos Detwiller. They have one child, an infant boy, Amos, who was born on February 10, 1895.

PROF. HENRY E. HARTZELL, the principal of the Sumneytown public schools and a popular educator of Montgomery county, is a son of Michael and Catharine (Miller) Hartzell, and was born April 15, 1840, in the township of Frederick, this county. He is of German ancestry, but his great great-grandfather left the fatherland early in the eighteenth century and came to the new world, settling in Montgomery county. In Frederick township, this county, was born George Hartzell, the grandfather of the subject of this sketch. He was a man of good education for that

time and did effective service as a teacher in the early educational history of Montgomery county. He was a great admirer of Andrew Jackson as a political leader, and believed in a Jacksonian enforcement of the principles of the Jefferson school of political economists, and served the people of his township conscientiously and with marked ability in the judicial relation of a justice of the peace for a number of years. He was a very active church member, belonging to the old Goshenhoppen Reformed church in Upper Salford township. He married Katie Croll, and to their marital alliance were born eight children.

Michael Hartzell, father, was born in Frederick township in 1797, and died in Branchville on February 1, 1859. He attended the subscription schools and obtained a good mental training, and then for twenty-four years was engaged in the profession of teaching in the old subscription or "pay" schools of the county. While teaching, and for a time afterwards, embracing in all a period of about twenty-four years, he was assessor of Frederick township. During the greater part of this time he resided upon a farm in Frederick township, where he owned one hundred and eighteen acres of land, upon which most of his family was reared. In 1852 he removed to a farm in Upper Salford township, and was elected one of the county commissioners of Montgomery county for a term of three years. Afterwards he removed to Branchville, and the remainder of his life was engaged in the hotel business. He was a Democrat of pronounced views, and in addition to the political offices already mentioned served as school director a number of years, and always took an active interest in the cause of popular education. He was a devoted and consistent member of the Reformed church, and was a man of recognized integrity and probity of character and of moral weight and influence in the community. His marriage union with Catharine Miller resulted in the birth of eleven children: Nathan, Jesse, George, Catherine, Michael, Elizabeth, Sarah, died in infancy; Jonas, Sophia, Henry, Edwin and Annie.

Professor Henry Edwin Hartzell received his educational training in the common schools of Frederick township and in Washington Hall college at the Trappe, then a popular institution of learning, and from the portals of which have gone forth many young men who afterwards distinguished themselves in the professions and in the business world. Having obtained a liberal education Mr. Hartzell, in 1859, took a position as teacher in the public schools of the county, and has remained in the profession ever since, teaching in various townships and boroughs of the county, and in 1867 came to Sumneytown as principal of the schools of that borough, and has remained there ever since. During the winter season he is engaged in the teaching of the public school and during the summer as principal of the Sumneytown academy. Professor Hartzell is a prominent and effective worker in the educational field, and keeps fully abreast the educational progress of the day. He is an active member of the Montgomery county Reading society, of which body he was one of the organizers, and has been a member ever since. In the intervals since he has been connected with the Sumneytown public schools he has taught vocal music and has been leader of the Sumneytown cornet band since its organization. Politically he is a staunch believer in the principles of the Democratic party, with which party he

has always voted. He served one term as justice of the peace of Marlborough township, and has held various offices in the organization of the election board. He is a member of the Reformed church and an active worker in the Sunday school. Fraternally he is a member of a number of well known orders, among which are the I. O. O. F., Scioto tribe, Improved Order of Red Men, and Green Lane Castle, Knights of the Golden Eagle.

In January, 1868, Professor Hartzell and Amanda, a daughter of Christian and Mary (Fry) Stitler, were united in marriage, and the following children bless this union: James B., a teacher by profession, but now employed as a clerk in Philadelphia; Katie, a teacher by avocation; Byron, died in infancy; Ada, a teacher in the Sumneytown schools; Perry, died in infancy; Wayne, died in childhood; Howard, Helen, Bessie, Grover, died in infancy; Clifford and Edward, died in infancy.

D. W. STETTLER, of Delphi P. O., near Zieglersville, is one of the largest merchants in that section of the State, being engaged in the coal, lumber, flour and feed business. He is of American ancestry, and his family have been for generations residents of Montgomery county. He is the son of Christian and Kate Stettler and was born in Frederick township, April 30, 1856. A. D. Stettler was his paternal grandfather and resided in Frederick township all his life. He was a farmer on a very large scale, and his finely cultivated farm covered many acres. In politics he was an active Republican, and a firm supporter of the principles of protection. He was a life-long member of the Lutheran church, and for many years was a deacon in the congregation. He married a Miss Schwenk.

The father of the subject of this sketch was a prominent merchant and huckster of Frederick township. He was educated in the common schools and also attended college. Later he owned and worked a large and profitable farm in the township, and was prosperous in all of his business undertakings. Mr. Stettler was an earnest Christian and a member of the Lutheran church, of which he was a trustee and elder for many years. He was the father of eight children, among whom are: Irvin, Sarah, Hiram, subject, Morris, Howard, and Lily, now wife of Doctor Neda.

D. W. Stettler was given a public school education, and when he had finished there went to Frederick institute, where he took a front place in his class. He left school at the age of twenty-three years and was engaged as a clerk for some time. He then went into the flour, feed, coal and lumber business at Delphi P. O., where he has since held a high place in business circles. His business is very extensive for such a region, amounting to over $40,000 yearly. He is a Republican in politics and is very active. Mr. Stettler early identified himself with the Lutheran church and has always been an earnest Christian worker in the church of which he was a deacon. On January, 26, 1884, he married, and is the parent of one child, a son.

Mr. Stettler is not only a prosperous merchant, but also owns a farm of one hundred and four acres, which he works with profit. In this and all his enterprises his conduct has been such as to bring him success and at the same time give him the high esteem of all with whom he comes in contact.

JACOB H. LEISTER, who has been actively in business at North Wales for over a quarter of a century, is a son of Franklin and Mary Ann (Heavner) Leister, and was born in Marlborough township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, November 8, 1838. His grandfather, Jacob Leister, was of German descent, and followed farming and powder-making in Marlborough township, where he died in 1850, at sixty-two years of age. He was a Democrat and Lutheran and married a Miss Weidemyer, by whom he had the following children: Franklin Willoughby, Jacob, Hannah, and Mrs. John W. Loch. Franklin Leister was reared on the farm, and after his father's death, succeeded to the ownership of the home lands and the powder mill, the latter of which he had previously operated and which he had finally disposed of to the Du Ponts. After disposing of his powder works, he retired from active business, and died in 1892, aged eighty-four years. He was an old time Democrat, and a member of the Lutheran church, in which he served for a long period of time as a deacon. Mr. Leister wedded Mary Ann Heavner, who was born in 1808, and is still living. They had three children: Hannah, widow of G. Henderson; Jacob H., and Mary, who died in childhood.

Jacob H. Leister was reared in his own township, and left school at eighteen years of age, to remove to Norristown, where he learned the trade of tinner, which he followed in Philadelphia and Norristown and Doylestown, Bucks county, until 1867. In that year he came to North Wales, and started in the tin, stove and hardware business, which he followed most successfully for twenty years. He then was out of business for three years, at the end of which time, in 1890, he opened his present agricultural establishment and extensive coal yards, associating with him his son, under the firm name of J. H. Leister & Son.

In 1863 Mr. Leister married Mary Reed, and to their union have been born seven children: Catharine and Amelia, dead; Frank; Jacob and Milton, dead; Emma and Addie.

Mr. Leister is a Democrat in politics, and a member and trustee of the Reformed church. He served as school director and as a councilman for twelve years, but when elected justice of the peace, refused to take out his commission. He has been president of the North Wales board of trade for years. He has been a director for years of its improvement and water companies, and of its building and loan association. Jacob H. Leister is one of the pioneers of the early improvement and the later growth of North Wales.

JAMES A. STEEN, of Conshohocken, a prominent druggist, is the eldest son of John and Margaret (Armstrong) Steen, and was born in the city of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, April 21, 1837. The name of Steen is of Scotch origin, and means a stone. John Steen was born at Enniskillen, in Ireland, and died aged fifty-two years. He was a man of good education, and at an early age came to Philadelphia, where he became a successful china and queensware merchant, on Second street below South street. He became an old line Whig after coming to Philadelphia, where he united with the Wharton street Methodist Episcopal church. He married Margaret Armstrong. Of the nine children born unto them but four lived to reach manhood and womanhood: James A., subject;

Mary L., wife of Isaac T. Sharp; Josephine, who died at eighteen years of age, and John F., whose death occurred at twenty-five years of age.

James A. Steen received his early education in the public schools and the Episcopal academy, of Philadelphia, and at sixteen years of age left school to learn the druggist business. He was employed in various drug stores and finally became an assistant in Dr. W. F. Patterson's drug establishment. While serving with Dr. Patterson he took the full course at the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy, from which institution he was graduated in the class of 1857. Immediately after graduation he secured a position at Columbia, South Carolina, which he held for two years, and then after a visit home went to Raleigh, North Carolina, where he remained two years. He then, in 1860, went to Pine Bluff City, Jefferson county, Arkansas, at which place he resided until he secured the position of surgeon, steward and apothecary at the Philadelphia naval asylum. Two and one-half years later he went to Norfolk, Virginia, in the same capacity, and eighteen months later accepted a similar position at the United States naval academy at Annapolis, Maryland, where he remained for a year and a half. Leaving Annapolis he removed to Philadelphia, and in 1871 came to Conshohocken, where he was a partner for nine years in the drug business with James W. Harry. At the end of that time he purchased the drug house of R. M. Service, at No. 241 Hector street, and has enlarged and remodeled the building until he now has a commodious and well appointed drug establishment. Mr. Steen gives careful attention to the filling of physicians' prescriptions, for which he is specially qualified, and has secured a large and remunerative patronage in the general drug and prescription business. He is a Republican in politics, and has served for two terms as a member of the school board. He is a member of Fritz lodge, Free and Accepted Masons, Knights of the Golden Eagle, and the Protestant Episcopal church, in which he is a vestryman.

On June 2, 1875 Mr. Steen married Eliza Ann Baxter, a daughter of James Baxter, of Conshohocken. Mr. and Mrs. Steen have three children: H. Baxter, who graduated in the mechanic arts from Drexel Institute in the class of 1895; Margaret Josephine, stenographer and assistant office manager for the Chester L. Smith Manufacturing company, of Norristown, and Helen Armstrong, now attending school.

HON. JOHN S. HUNSICKER, who was born in Perkiomen township, on November 19, 1837, is descended from German ancestry that has performed an important part in the making of history in central and eastern Pennsylvania. He is now fifty-eight years old, and during the whole of the time since reaching his majority he has been a prominent figure in the affairs of the locality in which he lived. In this he again strongly resembles the men from whom he is descended. His grandfather was born in Skippack township, and passed his life in a dual capacity and with equal success. He tilled the soil of a large farm and also preached the gospel according to the tenets of the Reformed church. He was a godly man and went down to his grave in November, 1847, full of years and honor. He was a Whig in political faith, and for his time was a well-

informed man. He was survived by six children; Joseph, Henry, Mary, Elizabeth, Garret D. and Sarah.

Henry Hunsicker, father of John, was born in March, 1802. He received the advantage of the schools of his day and became a farmer. He owned a farm of one hundred and seventy-five acres, rich in soil and very profitable. He voted and worked with the Republican party and his zeal was rewarded by election to the position of justice of the peace, which he held about eight years, and assessor. He was a devout Christian and active church worker. He was one of the first trustees of the Collegeville church, and was always devoted in the cause. He married Kate Shoemaker, and this union was blessed with nine children: Elizabeth, died at the age of fifteen; Erias; Francis; Mary, who became the wife of Rev. Mailley; Barbara, who died young; John S., the subject of this sketch; Sarah, wife of D. D. Haldeman; Isaac, who died young; and Kate, who is the wife of John Umstad. Mr. Hunsicker died in May, 1865.

Hon. John S. Hunsicker, of whom this sketch especially treats, started his school life at a tender age in the common schools of the district. He afterwards finished his education with five winter terms at Freeland seminary, now Ursinus college. Following this he went on a farm and has been following that occupation ever since. He owns a large and fertile farm and is successful in its management. He always affiliated with the Republican party, was a hard worker in the ranks, and held several more or less responsible positions, among them being assessor for five years and justice of the peace for eight. Throughout his political career he has been noted for his honesty of purpose and square dealing with both friend and foe. Mr. Hunsicker is a member of the Reformed church at Collegeville and has always taken a leading part in the affairs of the church. He was a deacon and a trustee of this congregation for a number of years, a teacher of the Sunday school for fifteen years, and finally superintendent.

On February 2, 1862, Mr. Hunsicker married Louise F., daughter of Abraham E. Cole, who was a well-to-do farmer. Five children were born to this couple: Anna, born December 18, 1862, the wife of H. T. Hunsicker; Mary, born July 30, 1864, and married to I. F. Saylor; Elmer E., died young; Wilmer C., born October 17, 1868; and Henry C., born December 29, 1871.

MAHLON J. GERHART, the head of the East Greenville Marble works, is a business man well known throughout the county. He has been in business in East Greenville since 1870, and has been very successful in all of his enterprises. Born and raised on a farm, still he was given the advantage of a good education, and has combined the marble business with agricultural pursuits to good advantage. He is a son of John F. and Leah (Kemmerer) Gerhart, and was born May 18, 1840, near New Goshenhoppen church in Upper Hanover township, Montgomery county, and is a descendant of German ancestry, his forefathers having been among the early settlers of this part of the State.

Mr. Gerhart received his education at Freeland seminary, now Ursinus college, under Prof. H. A. Hunsicker. He also took a course in music under Prof. Hermann, as a private scholar and received excellent instruction. After graduation he

returned to the farm and assisted his father in working his fertile fields. About this time he married Mary Ann, daughter of George Gery, who was a prosperous farmer and a prominent member of the Goshenhoppen church, in which he served as deacon, elder and trustee. Mr. Gerhart remained with his father on the farm at New Goshenhoppen church until April 1, 1895, when he removed to East Greenville and purchased a fine residence. He is still sole owner and manager of the East Greenville Marble works and employs five hands, who are kept busy all the year. The business of these works embraces all of the several kinds of ornamental stone work, and many fine granite monuments have been turned out by the establishment. His trade extends over a wide district of the county, and he may be said to be one of the solid men of the region. Mr. Gerhart is at present organist of Pennsburg Reformed church, and is a musician of merit. For over forty years he was the organist at New Goshenhoppen Reformed church, but resigned in 1894. At one time he was also organist for the Swamp Trinity Reformed church and filled that post for fifteen years. He has always been very active in church affairs and Sunday school work. In political tendencies, Mr. Gerhart early cast his lot with the Republican party, but he never held or aspired to public office. He is a public spirited man, however, and always takes an interest in anything that is calculated to subserve the welfare of his community and the people among whom he lives.

Mr. Gerhart's union with Mary Ann Gery was blessed with five children: Cora, is the wife of F. M. Mall, a well-to-do merchant; Sallie L., was married to Dr. O. F. Gery, a prominent young physician, who is now located at Chapel, Berks county; George Clement; one dead; Paul A., is a book-keeper at Philadelphia and is a graduate of Pierce's Business college; Katie R., is still unmarried and resides with her parents.

F. G. BIGONY, M. D., of Lansdale, is a young practitioner who, in a few years, has gained a large clientele and has won the respect and confidence of the people of his neighborhood. He is of French extraction, though his ancestors have resided in this country for a number of generations. His grandfather was Joseph Bigony, a farmer by occupation, which he followed all his life. He was a Democrat in political belief and took a great interest in party work. As a farmer he was very successful and gave his children the benefit of good educational advantages.

Dr. F. W. Bigony, his son, and the father of the subject of this sketch, finished the public school course, studied medicine and graduated from Jefferson Medical college. He opened an office in Skippackville and practiced his profession there until he removed to Doylestown. From there he went to Line Lexington, and finally settled at Montgomeryville, where he is enjoying a large and lucrative practice. He is a Democrat and an active politician, being a leader in his district. He is also a very prominent member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. His marriage union was blessed with seven offspring.

Dr. F. G. Bigony attended the public schools, afterwards took a nine months' course at Doylestown seminary, and then began to read medicine under his father. He attended Jefferson college and graduated with honor March 29, 1884. He first

located at Line Lexington and remained there until 1887, when he came to Lansdale and made it his home. Here he found a large field and has been prosperous. He is very popular, and being full of the spirit of progress and enterprise, is a prominent and valued citizen. He is a Democrat and a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He married Ida, daughter of Rufus Yerkes, on June 7, 1888, and they have had four children: Marie O., born January 27, 1891; Rufus G., born June 24, 1892, now dead; Carl F., born June 2, 1893, and Margaret, born in 1894.

J. SHELLY WEINBERGER. A few miles northwest of Quakertown, in the township of Milford and the county of Bucks, stand three Mennonite meeting-houses, within a radius of less than a mile, and no others within a range of several miles. The country is a fine open level, and is still known as "the Swamp." Sixty years ago the citizens of the place almost exclusively held the religious faith of the Mennonites, and on the presidential election cast their ballots for the Whig candidate. The school house was attached to the meeting house, and the most advanced in scholarship was generally called on to become the schoolmaster. The true genius of the Pennsylvania Germans was well displayed in this locality. The inhabitants were farmers, with the exception of a few mechanics and store-keepers, and were early noted for sobriety, industry, non-resistance and shunning of debt. Not to pay one's debts was considered a marked disgrace, and to sue, unrighteous. The dictates of conscience were regarded far more binding than statute law. Their over-cautious habits, however, prevented them from taking the initiative in any new enterprise, and the fact that a thing was new was thought sufficient ground for its rejection. Hence their slow progress in their early history.

Amidst surroundings and associations of this kind lived the Weinberger family in humble style, having the Bible, hymn-book, prayer-book, and a few printed sermons for a library. Joseph Weinberger's grandparents emigrated from the borders of the Rhine, in Germany, to this country. He was married to Mary Shelly, and to them were born four daughters, and one son, John Shelly Weinberger, named after his maternal grandfather, John Shelly. Joseph Weinberger could read and write German, and was esteemed for his correct habits and resoluteness, and died in the eighty-first year of his age, while his mother had become almost a centenarian. Young Weinberger was educated in the common schools as they were conducted fifty-five years ago.

When seventeen years of age he joined the church of his parents. In addition to subscribing to the creed he promised to obey the regulations of the church and to preach if the lot would fall on him. Bishop John H. Oberholtzer was the district school teacher. His increasing parish labors divided his time unfavorably for discharging the duties of either office. When young Weinberger was nineteen years of age the bishop asked him to succeed him as teacher. The local director proposed to make it easy by requiring but a partial examination and allowing the novice to attend a term at boarding school before the district school would commence. Meanwhile his brother-in-law, Rev. Henry A. Hunsicker, principal of Freeland seminary, was paying the family a social visit,

and was urging the young man by all means to accept the proposition. That was the turning point of his future career. The attendance of one term at a seminary gave no little weight to the young teacher's standing in the estimation of the community, and he succeeded far above his own expectations, especially in discipline. Having completed the winter session, he drew his pay and went to Freeland seminary for two terms during the summer, the directors not requiring him to come home to attend examination, as he had given satisfaction the previous winter. When twenty-one years of age he resolved to take a collegiate course and make teaching his profession. The resolution was strong, but the funds were wanting. Rev. Daniel Weiser offered to provide the means if young Weinberger would become a Reformed clergyman. His brother-in-law proposed to loan him all the money to insure an independent course. After the father became fully acquainted with the strong resolution of his son, he resolved to furnish half the sum required and take notes for the other half. The way now was clear, and he concluded to prepare for Yale college, where his classical teachers, Wayne MacVeagh and William L. Williamson, had lately graduated. Two years' study, besides teaching and acting as prefect in Freeland seminary for board, amidst many discouragements, regrets and mortifications, was regarded sufficient preparation for entering an eastern college.

In the second week of September, 1855, John Hunter Worrall, a senior, Joseph Alonzo Christman, a junior, Henry Royer, a sophomore, and J. Shelly Weinberger, an applicant for admission, all of Montgomery county, started for Yale college. In the evening they found lodging at the Florence hotel, in the great metropolis, and on the following noon arrived at the City of Elms. Weinberger became Mr. Worrall's protégé in all the preliminary arrangements for appearing to the best advantage in Alumni hall for examination. The applicant became a member of the Freshman class of '59, numbering one hundred and fifty-three. He spent four profitable years at college, towards the close changed places with some whose early training had been far more favorable, and at the age of twenty-seven graduated with respectable honors. On the Monday following the commencement of his *alma mater* he took his place in Freeland seminary as teacher of ancient and modern languages. He saved all of his salary he could for two years to pay his note, when he considered himself financially free, and had but a meagre balance to his credit. He entered into a new covenant by marrying a young lady of fine intellectual endowments and good taste, Miss Emma Kratz, daughter of Jacob S. Kratz, of Plumstead, Bucks county. In 1863 he purchased a small farm, stock and all, moved on the farm, and managed it successfully without interfering with his teaching.

After having taught for Mr. Hunsicker for six years. the school was leased for five years to Mr. Adam H. Fetterolf, now Dr. Fetterolf, president of Girard college. The services of Mr. Weinberger had previously been secured, and he became Mr. Fetterolf's right-hand man in governing unruly boys and teaching refractory classes. Before Mr. Fetterolf's lease had expired Freeland seminary was sold to the board of directors of Ursinus college. The constitution of the college provides that one-fourth of the board may consist of members not belonging to the Reformed church. In the elec-

tion of the faculty it was considered wise by the board to make J. Shelly Weinberger a member, to represent the old element in the school, a stroke of policy for which there has been no cause for regret. He saved for the college one-half of the students of Freeland seminary, some of whom subsequently graduated. He rendered valuable aid to the Reformed brethren in their efforts to put the college on a firm basis and in their endeavors to establish a good system of discipline.

Professor Weinberger for some years studied the co-education of the sexes in colleges by reading all the books treating on the subject at his command, *pro* and *con*. Besides his own theory, the experience of Oberlin college for fifty years, as well as that of other colleges which opened their doors to ladies at more recent periods, satisfied him that it is the natural and normal way to educate, as mind knows no sex. Being acquainted with the difficulties which have to be overcome to introduce the system and make it effective at Ursinus, he proposed what he thought might prove an entering wedge. He made a request that his daughter should be allowed to enter the college classes, proposing to pay for her tuition the same as if she were a son. The school had just commenced its session, and immediate action on the request was painful and every intimation unfavorable. After a consideration of one week the request was granted with the understanding that no others be allowed to enter should they apply. Everything went on as before, and at the end of the scholastic year, Dr. Super, the vice-president, and Professor Weinberger were appointed a committee to present an over ture to the board of directors to admit young ladies as day pupils into the institution. The board reported favorably, and the president of the faculty in his next annual report stated that "the experiment of admitting young ladies had proved the wisdom of the measure."

The quarter-centennial of the office of teacher in the different halls, on the same grounds, through three successive administrations, was celebrated on the 26th of June, 1884, by the graduation of his only child, Minerva, who was the valedictorian in a class of nine, and the first lady graduate in the classical department of Ursinus college.

In 1884 he became a member of the Centennial Association of Montgomery county, and served as committeeman of the upper district of Upper Providence. Each election district was asked to subscribe one hundred dollars. In two days after he received his papers he had raised his quota of one hundred dollars in paid up subscriptions. On his favorable report the committee on finance began to breath more freely. Others fell in line and a fund of three thousand, five hundred and fifty dollars soon promised to make an assumed success of the coming centennial celebration. After a successful celebration a handsome balance of money was left in the treasurer's hands. It was proposed to spend the residue on a grand banquet. The professor objected to this as he said the funds were subscribed for the benefit of the citizens of Montgomery county and not for private use. He offered a resolution to place the money in mortgage trust forever for the benefit of Montgomery County Historical society, the projector of the celebration. Some of the lawyers opposed the measure violently, but the good sense of the committeemen from the country districts prevailed, and it was so ordered. He be-

came a member of the Historical society at that time.

In 1889 he was chairman of the committee of arrangements to celebrate the fortieth anniversary of the founding of Freeland seminary, on which occasion he delivered a neat address of welcome, which called forth hearty response from Rev. H. A. Hunsicker, principal of Freeland seminary for seventeen years; A. H. Fetterolf, LL. D., president of Girard college; Milton T. Urner, a prominent lawyer and ex-congressman of Frederick, Maryland; John M. Vanderslice, Esq., of Philadelphia; and Hon. George N. Corson, of Norristown.

J. A. Strassburger, Esq., of Norristown, and Professor Brunner, congressman elect from Berks county, made the after dinner speeches of the occasion.

Prof. Weinberger served as professor of Latin and Greek in Ursinus college, 1870-87, and has been professor of the Greek language and literature since 1887. He ranked as senior professor for twenty years and after the death of the first president, he held the second place in the faculty until the election of the second president in 1892, when he was elected dean of Ursinus college.

In 1890 he was elected by the board of directors as a member of the building committee of which Robert Patterson was chairman, to erect Bomberger Memorial hall. This token of honor he accepted with some reluctance, but all apprehensions were soon removed by an intimate acquaintance with Mr. Patterson, from whose noble purposes he learned that the college was building better than it knew.

The Professor has had different offers since graduation to become principal or president of higher institutions, all of which he declined, preferring a less responsible position, as increasing responsibility weighs heavily upon him. He was a contributor to the *Reformed Church Monthly*. Among the addresses delivered in connection with his official duties are notably one on "Conscience," and another on "Success." Lectures on forestry were delivered by him when the question was first agitated in the State, and he has been president of the Montgomery county branch of the Pennsylvania Forestry association for many years. The master-piece of his literary productions outside of his profession is an address on "Objective History," delivered at the Inter-County Historical meeting, at Ambler Park, June 10, 1886. A reporter commenting on this piece of literature now in history, says that philosophy and criticism are natural to the speaker.

The professor has always been closely in touch with all public interests in his community and has discharged the duties of various trusts committed to him, and has been styled "the business professor."

He was senior elder for many years in Trinity Christian church, and since its connection with the Reformed church, he represented it in classis three successive years, and was once a delegate to synod. He contributes to the interests of the mid-week prayer meeting and teaches his class regularly in Sunday school.

He has been teaching the second generation for some time. The sons in many cases have related incidents told by their fathers. Prof. Weinberger is the only member of the faculty from the start remaining in it at the present time. His relation with the educational institution of the place has been unique. For thirty-six consecutive years he has been a teacher here. He has always been the connecting link between the old and the new.

He has been a successful teacher and disciplinarian, and a true servant. The Reformed Church *Almanac* says: "His inherent force of character and positive manner and expression tend to develop manliness and decision in the student. Prof. Weinberger contributes important qualities to the faculty of Ursinus." Another says, "There are but two tender spots in the professor's make-up, a tender conscience and a tender heart."

He is now sixty-three years of age and lives in a modest home fronting on the main street of Collegeville. He has been honored with the degrees, Master of Arts and Doctor of Laws.

HENRY U. BRUNNER, a district attorney from 1871 to 1875, is a son of Frederick and Lydia (Umsted) Brunner, and a native of Worcester township, this county, where he was born, December 23, 1841. The family is of German origin and trace their lineage back to the ancient palatines, or high officials with royal preogatives, in an unbroken line of descent. Its first representatives in America were two brothers, who left the fatherland early in 1720, and after a long and tempestuous voyage landed at Philadelphia in the autumn of that year and settled, one in what is now Montgomery county, and the other in the county of Berks. From these two emigrants are supposed to be descended all the numerous Brunners now in this country. They each reared a large family, but the biographer lacks the necessary data to trace them carefully, and will only say that two of their descendants, uncles of the subject of this sketch, served with distinction in the War of 1812, and that others have been among the useful and respected citizens of Montgomery county and Eastern Pennsylvania. Frederick Brunner, paternal grandfather of Henry U. Brunner, was a blacksmith and farmer by occupation, a Jacksonian Democrat in politics, and an adherent of the German Reformed church. He passed nearly his entire life in Montgomery county. He married and reared a family of several children, one of his sons being Frederick Brunner (father), who was born in Worcester township, this county, in 1797. The latter obtained a good common school education, and after arriving at man's estate engaged in agricultural pursuits, which he followed all his life. Like his father, he was an ardent Democrat in politics, and served as school director for a period of six years, between 1850 and 1860. He was a member of the Reformed church, and died at his home in Worcester township, this county, December 1, 1869, aged seventy-two years. He married Lydia Umsted, and by that union had a family of children, only seven of whom now survive: Joseph, Albert, Franklin, Jacob, Henry U., Samuel, and Hannah, now the wife of George M. Weber, of Worcester township. The deceased were: Julia A., Mary, Elizabeth, Isabella, Frederick and Daniel (twins), Benjamin, John, Lydia and Elizabeth, the last named dying in infancy.

Henry U. Brunner was reared on the old homestead in Worcester township, this county, and attended the public schools until his sixteenth year. By that time he had acquired a very good common school education and began teaching in the district schools of this county. After four winters passed in that employment he entered Franklin and Marshall college in the spring of 1860, and was graduated from that institution early in 1864. He then

taught a select school in Westmoreland county, and at the same time began the study of law with the late Hon. Henry D. Foster, of Greensburg, Pennsylvania. Having completed his preparation and passed the usual examination he was admitted to the bar of Westmoreland county in August, 1866, and in September of the same year was admitted to practice in the courts of Montgomery county. He at once located at Norristown, where he has been engaged in a lucrative general practice ever since. He has been solicitor for a number of county officers and is a member of the committee on records for the county of Montgomery.

In the year 1871 Mr. Brunner was elected to the office of district attorney, and served acceptably until 1875. His administration of the office was alike creditable to himself and conducive to the public welfare. In his more than a quarter of a century of general practice in the courts of Eastern Pennsylvania, he has been connected with many important actions, among which may be mentioned the Curling murder case in 1875, the Supplee libel case in 1879, and the Hoskins and Earnest case, in all of which he prominently figured.

On August 7, 1872, Mr. Brunner was united in marriage to Mary A. Houpt, a daughter of the late Isaiah B. Houpt, of Norristown. To. Mr. and Mrs. Brunner have been born two children, one son and a daughter: Blanche and Charles H., the latter now a member of the Freshman class at the *alma mater* of his father, Franklin and Marshall college, Lancaster, Pennsylvania. In his political affiliations Mr. Brunner is a Democrat, and for many years has taken an active part in local politics. He has been officially identified with the Democratic county committee, and is regarded as among the conservative and far-seeing leaders of his party in Montgomery county.

HON. CHARLES H. STINSON, one of the most efficient and popular public men that Montgomery county has ever produced, is a son of Hon. Robert and Elizabeth (Porter) Stinson, and was born in Norriton township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, June 28, 1825. The Stinsons are of sturdy Scotch-Irish descent, and inherit all the worthy traits of their celebrated and distinguished race. Hon. Robert Stinson was a man of prominence and worth, and led a life above reproach and worthy of imitation. He was a justice of the peace for many years and served as an anti-Masonic member of the legislature of Pennsylvania in 1836. He married Elizabeth Porter, daughter of Stephen Porter and niece to General Andrew Porter.

Chas. H. Stinson was reared in his native county, and after completing his academic course entered Dickinson college, at Carlisle, this State, from which institution of learning he was graduated in the class of 1845. His hard work at college impaired his health, and he spent a year very profitably to himself physically in traveling through several mountainous sections of the State. At the end of that time he returned home and read law with his brother, George W. Stinson, of Norristown, until the death of the latter in 1848. After this sad event he completed his legal studies under Addison May, and and was admitted to the Montgomery county bar May 22, 1849. Immediately after admission to the bar, Mr. Stinson entered upon the practice of his profession at Norristown, where he has remained ever

since. He practices in the courts of Montgomery and adjoining counties, where he is known as a lawyer of ability, diligence and honesty.

In politics Mr. Stinson is a Republican. He refused the nomination of his party for State senator in 1864, but three years later was prevailed upon to accept it, and was elected with Dr. Worthington, of West Chester, this State, to represent the counties of Montgomery, Chester and Delaware. He served on the general judiciary and other prominent committees of the State senate in 1868, and was elected speaker in 1869. He was re-elected to that office in 1870, and presided with such dignity, fairness and general acceptation to all parties as to command general respect and make his brief political career one of honor and worthy of record.

Shortly after retiring from the political field and refusing any further nominations, he declined the appointment of additional law judge of Montgomery and Bucks counties, tendered him by Governor John W. Geary. In April, 1882, Governor Hoyt appointed Senator Stinson president judge of the thirty-eighth judicial district to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of Judge Henry P. Ross. Senator Stinson took his place on the bench and by the urbanity of his manner and the prompt, accurate and impartial discharge of every duty of his position made as worthy a judicial record as he had a political career. In the autumn he was the unanimous choice of his party for judge, but the district being largely Democratic he was defeated, although popular and running ahead of his ticket.

Judge Stinson has always been philanthropic and patriotic, and throughout the late Civil war was an earnest supporter of the Union, serving as a private in an emergency company called into the Gettysburg campaign when the legions of Lee threatened Pennsylvania. Judge Stinson has also been active and useful in varous ways to his fellow citizens. He was one of the organizers and is the solicitor of the First National bank, of Norristown, and served as a trustee of the hospital for the insane of Southeastern Pennsylvania. While serving in the latter position he was instrumental in breaking the old hospital system of this country, and placed a woman physician at the head of the women's department. The results of this change in hospital management of the insane have been so beneficial that every hospital for the insane will soon have a woman for chief physician of the women's department. In private and public life Judge Charles H. Stinson has been faithful and efficient in the discharge of every duty devolving upon him.

HUGH McINNIS, a self-made man and a leading manufacturer of Norristown, is a son of John and Martha (Hunter) McInnis. John McInnis was born in Renfreeshire, Scotland, from which place he emigrated to America and came to Philadelphia, where he was killed. He established the first carpet manufactory in Philadelphia, and for several years was engaged in burning lime, in which he dealt, at No. 1328 North Ninth street, the oldest lime market stand in the city. In politics he was a Republican and in religious matters a member of the Presbyterian church, in the success of which he was deeply interested. He was a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and was highly respected as a citizen. He was united in marriage with Martha Hunter, by whom

ness, and has ever since conducted a very large establishment, his stock being estimated at $50,000. He is a man of thorough business capacity and gives his affairs close personal attention.

Politically Mr. Christian is a Democrat and has always been most active in the work of his party. For four years he was assistant postmaster of the town and for two terms has held the position of postmaster. He has also held several local offices and is very popular in the party. In religion he is an active Christian and a member of the Reformed church. He married Sarah Kratz, daughter of Isaac and Kate Kratz. They have only had one child, who died young.

Mr. Christian is respected in the district in which he lives and has always been earnest in the advocacy of local improvement.

EPHRAIM C. BOORSE, now resident of Norristown, and a retired coal and lumber operator, is a son of Henry C. and Susan (Cassel) Boorse, and was born in Towamencin township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, January 25, 1825. He was reared on the farm, received his education in the local pay and the early common schools, and then engaged in farming, which he quit four years later to embark in the lumber and coal business. His yards were near Jeffersonville, in Norriton township, and he handled a large amount of lumber and coal. After fourteen years spent in the lumber and coal business, he sold out and bought a farm, which he tilled for sixteen years. At the end of that time, Mr. Boorse retired from all active business pursuits and removed to his present residence at No. 1340 DeKalb street, Norristown. Mr. Boorse through life has been strictly a conservative business man with no turn of mind for rash or speculative ventures.

On March 10, 1845, Mr. Boorse married Elizabeth K. Ziegler, a daughter of Abraham K. and Rachel (Krause) Ziegler. Mr. and Mrs. Boorse have six children: Isaiah C., Susan A., Clara C., wife of James Hoffman, of Norriton township; Harry A., Lizzie A., now engaged in teaching in the State of California; and Mary C., a teacher in the Lansdale schools of this county.

Mr. and Mrs. Boorse are members of the Mennonite church, while all of their children have united with the Presbyterian church.

The ancestor of the American Boorse family was Harman Boors, who came from Holland and settled about 1750, in what is now Towamencin township, where he owned property, and resided near Kulpsville. His business affairs required him to re-visit his native country several times, and on his last voyage he died at sea. He had five sons, of whom three: Peter, Arnold and Harman, jr., were married. Harman, jr., was a farmer, and married and reared a family. His children were: John, Margaret, Peter, Henry, Anna Catharine, Sibilla, Susanna and Elizabeth.

John Boorse was born October 17, 1763, wedded Elizabeth Cassel June 8, 1797, and died January 26, 1847. His children were: Henry C., Magdalena, Peter, Daniel, Joseph, Harman, Jacob, Catharine, Mary and Hubert. Henry C. Boorse, father, was born October 14, 1799, and was reared on the old Boorse farm that has been in the possession of the family for nearly one hundred and fifty years. He was a farmer and held several local offices during his lifetime. He married Susanna Cassel, who died April

6, 1856. Mr. Boorse survived his wife thirteen years, dying April 26, 1869. To Henry C. and Susanna (Cassel) Boorse were born five children: Barbara, Ephraim C., subject; John C., Catharine and Susan.

DANIEL WEBSTER SHELLY, M. D., a physician in active practice at Ambler, is a son of Isaac H. and Susan (Moyer) Shelly, and was born in Milford township, Lehigh county, Pennsylvania, August 10, 1860. The Shelly family of which Dr. Shelly is a member is descended from Henry, one of three Shelly brothers, who came from Platney, Germany, and settled shortly after the commencement of the last century in Lehigh and Bucks counties. In line of direct descent from this immigrant, Henry Shelly, was an other Henry Shelly (grandfather), who was a farmer and Mennonite and resided in Bucks county, where he married Elizabeth High, by whom he had one child, Isaac H. Shelly, the father of the subject of this sketch. Isaac H. Shelly attended Ursinus college and learned the trade of miller. His first employment was in a store at Vera Cruz, in Lehigh county, and later engaged in farming and milling in Lower Milford township, that county, but soon removed to Bucks county, where he conducted a general mercantile business for ten years. At the end of that time he removed to Quakertown, Bucks county, where he has been engaged in the general mercantile business ever since. Mr. Shelly is an active Republican and a consistent member of the Mennonite church, and has served for several years as a director of the Quakertown National bank. In 1855 he married Susan Moyer. They have two children: James H. and Dr. D. W., whose name appears at the head of this sketch. Dr. D. W. Shelly was reared in his native township until he was eight years of age, when he was brought to Pleasant Valley. He received his education in the public schools, Quakertown high and the Mennonite academy, of Wadsworth, Ohio, conducted by a Professor Shelly, who was a distant relative. Leaving school he commenced the study of medicine in 1878 in the medical department of the University of Pennsylvania, from which he was graduated as an honor man in the class of 1882. Immediately after graduation he came to Ambler, where has been actively and successfully engaged in the practice of his profession up to the present time. Dr. Shelly stands well in his profession, being a member of the Montgomery county and the Pennsylvania State Medical societies.

On October 9, 1885, Dr. Shelly married Lydia S. Acuff. To their union have been born four children, three sons and a daughter: Isaac H., James H., J. Marshall and Mary, deceased.

Dr. Shelly is a Republican, and has been elected for a second term as burgess of Ambler. He is a member of the Mennonite church and Spring House lodge, Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

HON. FRANKLIN A. COMLY, a member of the present house of representatives of Pennsylvania from Montgomery county, is a son of Major Samuel W. and Julia (Peters) Comly, and was born in Whitemarsh township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, February 17, 1856. Major Samuel W. Comly was born and reared at Spruce Mills, near Philadelphia,

and learned the trade of miller. He ran the Spruce mill for some years and then removed to Whitemarsh township, this county, where he operated the old and well known Linden flouring mill for upwards of twenty years. In connection with running the last named mill he was engaged in farming to a considerable extent. Major Comly was born in 1821, and lived to be sixty-three years of age, dropping dead in 1884, in the Palace hotel, San Francisco, California, while on a pleasure trip to the Pacific slope. He was an active Republican and a strong Union man when the late Civil war commenced. He was captain of a company of Pennsylvania cavalry and served in the Army of the Potomac, where he was promoted major for meritorious service. He married Julia Peters, whose father obtained the first right of way granted for passenger railways in the city of Philadelphia, and ran an old stage line from that city to Bethlehem. Major and Mrs. Comly had three children: Emma P., wife of William Wersler; one who died in infancy; and Hon. Franklin A., of whom this brief sketch is given.

Franklin A. Comly attended the district schools, was a student for two terms in Swarthmore college, Delaware county, and then entered the Friends' Central high school at Fifteenth and Race streets, Philadelphia. He then took the commercial course of Bryant & Stratton's business college at Tenth and Chestnut streets, and in 1876 received a position in the freight department of the Bound Brook railroad company at Second and Berks streets. Two years later he received the contract to deliver all the New York freight of that company for the city of Philadelphia, and in 1880 transferred his contract to other hands to engage in the produce business as a member of the firm of Nice & Comly. They did business on South Water street until May, 1884, when on the death of his father he withdrew to take charge of the home farm. After six years spent partly in farming, he sold the farm to the Pennsylvania railroad, and has resided since then near Ambler.

Mr. Comly is a staunch Republican who believes in a protective tariff for the best interests and rapid advancement of American industries. He was elected in 1892, when the county was politically close, to the legislature, and in 1894 was re-elected by a majority of nearly three thousand. He gave close and personal attention to the interests of his constituents during the legislative sessions of 1893 and 1895 and was a member of important committees. Franklin A. Comly is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Junior Order of American Mechanics, and Ambler Lodge, Knights of Malta.

ALFRED WALTERS, general superintendent of the Swedes' furnace at Swedeland, Montgomery county, is a native of Reading, Pennsylvania, where he was born on the 22d of October, 1847. His parents were Robert and Elizabeth (Johnson) Walters, the former born in Scotland and the latter a native of the city of Reading. Robert Walters (father) came to America when quite young, and settled near Waynesburg, in Chester county, this State. His father remained in Scotland and died in that country. After attaining manhood and securing a good common school education, Robert Walters learned the blacksmith trade at Waynesburg, and followed that occupation most of his life.

He continued to reside in Chester county until his death. He was a Presbyterian in religion and for many years an active member of St. Mary's Presbyterian church, at Hill, Chester county. Politically, he was a Democrat and held a number of local offices. He became a man of considerable prominence in his community, and was noted for his love of domestic life. In 1846 he married Elizabeth Johnson, and they had a family of five children, of whom the subject of this sketch is the eldest. The others were: Frank, now with the Wilmington & Northern railroad; Annie, who married H. Ames; William; and Emma, who became the wife of James Miller, an employee of the Swede furnace at Swedeland.

Alfred Walters spent the early part of his life in Chester county, attending the public schools until eighteen years of age, and afterwards went to Berks county and entered the employ of the Monocacy Furnace company, near Reading. He remained with them for a period of eighteen years. He then went to Columbia, Pennsylvania, and assumed the management of the Shawnee furnace at that place. This he operated for one year, and then removed to Lynchburg, Virginia, where he became manager of General Grubb's furnace. After one year in this position he entered the employ of the Crane Iron company, at Catasauqua, Lehigh county, Pennsylvania, and ran their furnace successfully for two years. From Catasauqua Mr. Walters came to Swedeland, Montgomery county, and assumed the management of the Swede furnace, of which he has now had entire charge for nine years. He is a successful and practical iron operator, and is favorably known in business circles throughout eastern Pennsylvania.

In his political affiliations Mr. Walters is a Democrat, and has frequently taken an active part in local politics. Religiously he is a strict Presbyterian. He is a member of the Independent Order of Red Men; Knights of the Mystic Shrine; and Lodge No. 24, Knights of Pythias. He has passed all the chairs in the two orders last named, and is active in all.

In 1868 Mr. Walters married Esther Richards. To them was born a family of fourteen children: Harry, now night foreman in the Swede furnace; William; Fannie, wife of H. A. Allender; Howard, deceased; Edward; Oscar; Harriet, deceased; Dollie; Frank, deceased; Paschal; Bentley; Pearl; Edith; and Richard. Mr. Walters is what has justly been called a self-made man, and has passed through every department of a blast furnace, thoroughly mastering every detail until he is well qualified to superintend the entire plant, and may justly feel proud of the position he has attained by industry and ability.

JOHN BREEN, a prosperous business man of Merion Square, who has been the architect of his own fortune, is a son of Arthur and Annie (McMannis) Breen, and was born in the city of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, June 30, 1857. He was reared in Philadelphia until he was twelve years of age, and then left the city schools and Chester business college to learn the market gardening business at Merion Square, this county, where he remained until 1878. In that year he went to Delaware county and took charge of the property of S. F. Fuller which he managed until 1885, and during that period of time he read much in Mr. Fuller's large library

and learned the trade of miller. He ran the Spruce mill for some years and then removed to Whitemarsh township, this county, where he operated the old and well known Linden flouring mill for upwards of twenty years. In connection with running the last named mill he was engaged in farming to a considerable extent. Major Comly was born in 1821, and lived to be sixty-three years of age, dropping dead in 1884, in the Palace hotel, San Francisco, California, while on a pleasure trip to the Pacific slope. He was an active Republican and a strong Union man when the late Civil war commenced. He was captain of a company of Pennsylvania cavalry and served in the Army of the Potomac, where he was promoted major for meritorious service. He married Julia Peters, whose father obtained the first right of way granted for passenger railways in the city of Philadelphia, and ran an old stage line from that city to Bethlehem. Major and Mrs. Comly had three children: Emma P., wife of William Wersler; one who died in infancy; and Hon. Franklin A., of whom this brief sketch is given.

Franklin A. Comly attended the district schools, was a student for two terms in Swarthmore college, Delaware county, and then entered the Friends' Central high school at Fifteenth and Race streets, Philadelphia. He then took the commercial course of Bryant & Stratton's business college at Tenth and Chestnut streets, and in 1876 received a position in the freight department of the Bound Brook railroad company at Second and Berks streets. Two years later he received the contract to deliver all the New York freight of that company for the city of Philadelphia, and in 1880 transferred his contract to other hands to engage in the produce business as a member of the firm of Nice & Comly. They did business on South Water street until May, 1884, when on the death of his father he withdrew to take charge of the home farm. After six years spent partly in farming, he sold the farm to the Pennsylvania railroad, and has resided since then near Ambler.

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and thus added greatly to his limited education. Leaving Mr. Fuller's employ in 1885, he returned to Merion Square in Lower Merion township, and bought the local and city newspaper routes throughout that section of the county which he operated for some time. He then embarked in the general mercantile business and slowly increased his stock of goods until he now has one of the largest stores in his section. He has prospered in every enterprise in which he has ever been engaged. Mr. Breen is a staunch, sound money, high protective tariff Republican. He has been prominent in local politics and for several years has been a delegate from Lower Merion to all district and county conventions of his party. He served four and a half years as postmaster of Gladwyne (Merion Square), being appointed by President Harrison, and is now an auditor of Lower Merion township. His record in politics has been such as to command respect and win him friends in all parts of the county.

On April 20, 1887, Mr. Breen married Matilda Norris, a daughter of Robert Norris, of Philadelphia. Mr. and Mrs. Breen have three children, two sons and a daughter: Raymond, born December 12, 1888; Anna, born March 27, 1892, and Harold, born November 10, 1893.

John Breen is a self-made man in the truest sense of that term, and has always won success in whatever field he has entered. His township is one of the wealthiest townships in the State, and his high home standing attests to his reliability and integrity in local positions where the finances handled would equal those of some counties. He is one of the finest marksmen in the county, but gives little time from business to the chase or hunting party. Mr. Breen is a member of the Lower Merion Building and Loan association, in whose prosperity he takes a deep interest.

On September 24, 1895, Mr. Breen was presented by the Republicans of Lower Merion township as a candidate for the office of sheriff of Montgomery county, but was defeated by Charles Johnson, of Norristown. The indications are plain, however, that he will be an exceedingly strong contestant in 1898.

JOHN TODD, M. D., one of the most successful physicians of Pottstown and Montgomery county, is a son of John and Christiana (Boughman) Todd, and was born at Freeland, now Collegeville, Upper Providence township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, April 25, 1830. Dr. Todd's paternal grandfather, Andrew Todd, bought from the Penns a large tract of land near Freeland, which remained in the family until 1884. Andrew Todd was a man of recognized ability and superior mechanical attainments, enterprising and progressive. He was one of the founders of Providence Presbyterian church, the first Presbyterian church in the county, and was a warm friend and ardent supporter of the eminent and celebrated divine, Dr. William Tennant. He was the first justice of the peace appointed for Montgomery county, by Governor McKean, his commission bearing date of November 12, 1824. He held that office up to his death, which occurred in 1834. 'Squire Todd wedded Hannah Boyer, and their children were: John, William Tennant, who went west in 1840; Isabella, who married Samuel Hammel, a merchant of Norristown, and died in 1850; and Hannah, wife of Samuel McClintock, of Northumberland county. John Todd, father,

John O. Todd M. D.

was born in 1776, and died in 1863. He was an extensive farmer and a prominent man in all matters pertaining to the public welfare of the county and State. He served one term as sheriff, and two terms as county treasurer, and was appraiser of public works under Governor Porter. John Todd was twice married; first to Miss Campbell, and after her death, to Christiana Boughman. By his second marriage he had six children: Dr. John, William T., Samuel M., Charles W. B., Christiana and Emily.

Dr. John Todd passed his boyhood days on the farm, received his education at Freeland seminary, and then taught school for three years. In 1855 he commenced the study of medicine with Drs. Keeler and Groff, of Harleysville, and a year later entered the Pennsylvania Medical college, from which he was graduated in the class of 1857.

After graduation he located at Boyertown, Berks county, where he practiced until 1868, and then came to Pottstown, a wider field for the practice of his profession. He soon built up a good practice, which he has held ever since and increased from year to year.

In 1857 Dr. Todd married Ida Amanda Smith, who was a daughter of Jacob K. Smith, of Philadelphia, and died in October, 1859, leaving one child, Amanda, now the wife of George Kramer, a merchant of Philadelphia. For his second wife, Dr. Todd, in 1864, wedded Sarah M. Heller, a daughter of Daniel Heller, of Boyertown, Berks county. To this second union have been born five children: Blanch, wife of J. G. Kulp, a merchant of Philadelphia; Bertha C., married Lyman Byers, an electrician of Pottstown; Sallie, wife of M. E. Gilbert, proprietor of the Mansion house, of Pottstown; Mary, and John, a telegraph operator, now with the District Telegraph company.

Dr. John Todd is a member of the Lutheran church of the Transfiguration, at Pottstown; a member of Stichter Lodge No. 254, Free and Accepted Masons; Royal Arch Masons; and Knights Templar. While not neglecting his profession, he never fails to take an active part in all political and public movements. He is a Democrat in politics, and served two terms as burgess and nine consecutive terms as councilman of Pottstown. He was a member from Montgomery county to the State constitutional convention of 1891, and in 1894, was the candidate of his party in the Seventh district for congress. Dr. Todd ran far ahead of his ticket, but was unable to reduce the Republican majority sufficient to be elected. But two other Democratic congressional candidates did better in holding the party vote in that disastrous year, and they were in very strong Democratic districts. He is the present president and has been a director of the Bringhurst Poor trust, of Pottstown, ever since it was founded, and during the last year, has directed the expenditure of $5,000 of its funds in relief of the poor of Pottstown. He is also president of the Montgomery, Berks and Chester County Agricultural and Horticultural society, and has served for several years as a director of the Pottstown Security company.

Dr. John Todd is one of the prominent and successful physicians of Montgomery county. He is a general practitioner and while often called in consultation in particular and complicated cases, yet has made no specialty of any branch of his profession. He has been remarkably successful, and his rare professional skill and attainments have given him a deserved pres-

tige. He is a member of the Pottstown Medical society, and the president of the medical staff.

JAMES BROWNBACK, president of the March-Brownback Stove company of Pottstown, is a son of William and Eliza (Wilson) Brownback, and was born in Chester county, Pennsylvania, March 4, 1833. He is a representative of one of Chester's fine old families, which was planted in America more than two hundred years ago by Garrett Brownback, a native of Wurtemburg, Germany, who emigrated to this country in 1683, on the vessel *Concord*, from Amsterdam, and settled first in Germantown, near Philadelphia. In 1734 he removed to Chester county, where he founded Brownback's Reformed church, and became one of the largest land-owners in the county. He married Mary Pepen, youngest daughter of Howard Pepen, whose wife was Mary Rittenhouse, and they reared two sons—Benjamin and Harry—and four daughters. He died about 1758, aged ninety-six years. Benjamin Brownback married Mary Paul and had three sons—Henry, John and Edward. Henry Brownback married Magdalena Paul and reared a family of five children : John, Peter, Benjamin, Annie and Susan. From the families of these two sons of the original emigrant have sprung a numerous and widely distributed race, which it would require a volume to set forth in regular order. Among them have been a number who have become distinguished in various lines of endeavor, and have furnished the State with some of her most useful and exemplary citizens.

William Brownback, father of the subject of this sketch, was born and reared in Chester county, where he engaged in agricultural pursuits and became quite successful. He married Eliza Wilson, and by that union had a family of children. She died in 1840, at the age of thirty-two. Her husband survived her for half a century, dying in 1890, in the eighty-fourth year of his age.

James Brownback attended the common schools of Chester county during his early youth, and subsequently entered the Chester county academy at West Chester, where he remained until 1849. He then engaged in farming with his father during the summer, and taught district school in the winter. This was kept up for five years, after which Mr. Brownback embarked in the mercantile business in which he remained three years. He then sold out and purchased a farm, and followed farming for eight years. In 1868 he purchased a fourth interest in March, Lisle & Co's stove foundry, at Linfield, Pennsylvania. In 1891 the business was removed to Pottstown, and a corporation organized, under the name of the March-Brownback Stove company. Mr. Brownback was elected president of the company and has ever since continued to occupy that position. The works were enlarged and greatly improved, and their business has become extensive and important. The company now employs about one hundred and fifty men, and the products of their foundry have a well earned popularity wherever they have been introduced and sold.

In 1872 Mr. Brownback, in company with William March and J. Keeley, of Philadelphia, purchased the Dauphin furnace, located in Dauphin county, this State. They owned and operated this furnace for two years and then sold the property to a Philadelphia company. Mr. Brownback is

John G. Nash

a director in the Bramcote Land company, and a stockholder in the Pottstown Textile works. For a number of years he served as a trustee of Ursinus college, but resigned the position on account of the pressure of private business on his time. He also served as school director for some time.

In December, 1857, Mr. Brownback was married to Ella S. March, a daughter of Michael and Susanna March, of Chester county, this State. They have three children: Adia E., married Henry G. Kulp, of Pottstown; Henry M., now district attorney of Montgomery county—see his sketch on another page; and William M. Politically Mr. Brownback is an ardent Republican and uncompromising protectionist. He is a Knight Templar Mason, and an ardent religious worker.

JOHN G. HERSH, M. D., of East Greenville borough, is a direct descendant of one of the oldest families of Montgomery county. Indeed, his family contributed not a little to make the history of the county, and in him they have an able representative, who is known to be a public spirited citizen and one of the most skillful practitioners in the county. He at present holds the office of chief burgess, and has been closely identified with the politics of the county and State, and he is to-day thoroughly respected and looked up to as a man who is destined to be one of the leading men of the district. Dr. Hersh is of German origin, but his family have been in this country for many generations. The original spelling of the family name was Hersch, but it was shortened and anglicized long ago.

Dr. Hersh is a son of John and Maria (Gery) Hersh, and was born in Upper Hanover township, near East Greenville, on August 23, 1852. His paternal great-great-grandfather was Heinrich Ludwig Hersh. With two other brothers he came from Strasburg, Germany, to this country about 1750, and located at Fort Pitt, now Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, his brothers, however, soon settled along the Ohio river. Heinrich came last and soon settled in York county, where he permanently established himself and resided up to his death. He had a son, Elias Hersh, born August 15, 1769, died February 19, 1855, aged eighty-five years and six months, who was the the great-grandfather of the subject of this sketch. His wife, Susanna (Long), was born August 24, 1777, died January 7, 1844, aged sixty-six years and four months. Jacob Hersh (grandfather) was born November 21, 1801, and lived on a large farm, which is now included in the borough of Pennsburg. He bought another farm near Six Corners church, near Pennsburg, where he remained until he died. This farm is now owned by Dr. Hersh. Jacob Hersh was for a short time a merchant on a large scale at Klinesville. He was allied with the Democratic party. He was also a member of the new Goshenhoppen Reformed church, of which he was a deacon and an elder and held other important offices in the gift of the congregation. Among other important positions filled in this connection may be mentioned that he was a member of the building committee under whose supervision the present new Goshenhoppen Reformed church was erected. He was married to Sophia Miller, and their union brought them five children: John, father of Dr. Hersh; Lydia, who is the wife of Aaron Greasimer, both of whom are dead; Thomas, who resides in the State of Illi-

nois; Daniel, of Philadelphia, and Henry, who is dead. Grandfather Hersh died June 3, 1877, aged seventy-five years, six months and sixteen days, and his kind and faithful helpmate died August 19, 1883, in her eighty-third year.

On January 28, 1821, John M. Hersh, father of Dr. Hersh, first saw the light of day in Upper Hanover township. He was brought up on his father's farm, and at a suitable age was sent to school, where he secured an average education. He worked on the farm, and when he reached man's estate he took to farming on his own account. He also became a huckster and a postman and was engaged in hauling to Philadelphia prior to the introduction of traffic by railroad. After leaving school he learned the trade of wheelwright, but never followed it to any extent. He and his estimable wife are still living in East Greenville, and he has long been retired from business. Following the inclination of his father he became a Democrat when he could vote, and was an eager and earnest worker in the party and held a number of local offices. He is a consistent Christian and a member of the Reformed church, and always took an active part in church work. He was married to Maria Gery on November 28, 1847, and this union was blessed with five children, three sons and two daughters: Mary Jane, who died in infancy; Dr. John G., Milton Jacob, who died at the age of five years; Katie Maria, who is the wife of David H. Keller, of Bangor, Northampton county, Pennsylvania, and Dr. Daniel G., who is a practicing physician at Bangor, Pennsylvania.

And now we come to the direct history of the gentleman whose portrait accompanies this sketch. Dr. John G. Hersh has always been a close student, and it is no doubt due to this fact, together with his wide experience, that has made him so successful. Arriving at the proper age he was sent to the public schools of Pennsburg, and on being well grounded in the rudiments was placed at Mt. Pleasant seminary, at Boyertown, Berks county. After taking the course provided in this institution he soon began to read medicine under Dr. Bobb, of East Greenville, and then entered the University of Pennsylvania, where he graduated with high honors. His first field of practice was Chapel village, Berks county, where he remained ten years, and was very successful. In 1886 he removed to East Greenville, where he has been located ever since, and soon after locating here took a special course at the Polyclinic Institute on diseases of the ear, nose and throat, and from that time on has combined the work of the general practitioner with with that of the specialist, which is of special value in districts outside of large cities. He owns the old homestead farm of sixty-five acres in Upper Hanover township, besides considerable other property.

Dr. Hersh is a Democrat in everything that word implies. He has from earliest manhood taken the deepest interest in politics and has been a worker for his party at all times. That his efforts for his party's principles and tickets are appreciated is seen by the fact that he is now serving his third term as chief burgess of East Greenville. In 1894 he was placed on the ticket for State assembly, and although that was a very disastrous year for Democrats he ran away ahead of his ticket, a sure sign of his great popularity. It is not likely that his constituents will let him rest here, and he is certain to be retained in public life.

In secret society circles Dr. Hersh is as well and favorably known as in any other

walk in life. He is a member of Perkiomen lodge, No. 595, F. and A. M., of which he is secretary, and Nativity Commandery, No. 72, Knights Templar, of Pottstown, Pennsylvania; a member of Pottstown Chapter, No. 271, Royal Arch Masons; Pennsburg lodge, No. 449, I. O. O. F.; East Greenville Castle, No. 298, Knights of the Golden Eagle, and several other orders.

Dr. Hersh was married on November 1, 1877, to Miss Ida, daughter of Dr. John G. and Kate (Ziegler) Hillegas, and they have had five children: Elmer, aged seventeen years; Katie Maria, who died at the age of one year; Mary Elizabeth, also dead; Ella Matilda and Ida Olivia. The family is united with the new Goshenhoppen Reformed congregation near East Greenville, and Dr. Hersh has served as a deacon of that church for four years.

JOHN HAMPTON, a farmer of some means, near the village of Abrams, is the youngest son of John and Anna (Chalfant) Hampton, and was born in Delaware county, Pennsylvania, 1842. His paternal grandfather lived in Chester county, where he was one of the great farming class of that county. He married and reared a family of children, and his son, John Hampton, was born in 1819.

John Hampton grew to manhood in his native township and then removed to Delaware county, which he left in 1840 to settle in Upper Merion township, this county. He lived three years past man's allotted three score and ten years and died in 1882. He was a shoemaker by trade, but followed farming principally for a livelihood. He was a Republican and a Baptist, took an interest in local affairs, and had served as supervisor of roads besides holding other township offices. He married Ann Chalfant. Mrs. Hampton was born in 1806, and died in 1879. To Mr. and Mrs. Hampton were born a family of four sons and four daughters. The sons were: David, Isaac, George, deceased; and John. The daughters were: Lydia; Sophia, married Joseph Gill; Jane, who died; and Mary, wife of J. Ortlett.

John Hampton was brought at two years of age by his parents to Upper Merion township, in which he was reared and in which he has resided ever since. He was carefully trained to farm labor of all kinds, and after attending the common schools assisted his father in farming until he attained his majority. He then made choice of farming as a life vocation, and rented of Heister Jones a farm which he tilled. In that year he bought his present farm, which is well adapted to grain raising and grazing, and lies near Merion or Abrams. Mr. Hampton is a practical and well-to-do farmer, who gives close attention to the cultivation and improvement of his land. He is a Republican in politics, and has served for the last year as township auditor. He is a member of the Patrons of Husbandry.

In 1866 John Hampton was united in marriage with Esther Ramsey. To Mr. and Mrs. Hampton have been born four children, three sons and a daughter: Clarence; William, deceased; Howard; and Bertha E.

LEVI R. SHAFFER, the senior member of the large and prosperous brick manufacturing firm of Schaffer Brothers, of Norristown, is a son of George and Eliza-

beth (Whiteman) Shaffer, and was born at Norristown, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, February 26, 1843. His parents were of German descent, and his father, George Shaffer, was a brewer and brick-maker by trade. George Shaffer at a very early age served in the War of 1812, and was slightly wounded at the defense of Baltimore. Returning from the War of 1812, he was engaged as a brewer and in brick-making until the opening of the late Civil war, when, although somewhat up in years and exempt from all military duty by age, yet enlisted in company D, 51st Pennsylvania infantry, commanded by Colonel, afterwards, General John F. Hartranft. He served as a private until his death, which occurred June 21, 1862, when on board a boat. Patriotic and brave, he knew no fear nor danger and gave his life as a sacrifice in defense of his country's liberty and preservation.

He was married to Miss Elizabeth Whiteman. Mr. and Mrs. Shaffer had a family of thirteen children, of whom ten grew to maturity: John W., Sophia H., now deceased; George, Sarah, wife of Robert Patton; Charles W., Mary, who married William Smith, and is now deceased; Joseph, deceased; William A., Joseph (2nd), now dead; and Levi Roberts, whose name heads this sketch.

Levi Roberts Shaffer was reared at Norristown, where he received his education in the public schools. He learned the trade of brick-making, which he followed until 1869, when he formed a partnership with his brothers, John and William, under the firm title of Schaffer Brothers. This firm manufactured brick for two years at Norristown, and then John withdrew, after which, Mr. Shaffer and his brother, William, continued the business to 1886. In that year they abandoned their yard and opened a brick-making plant just beyond the borough limits and in Norriton township, which they equipped with the best improved machinery, and where they have manufactured, ever since, an excellent quality of brick by the steam process. Their plant is known by the name of the East Penn brick works, and has an out-put of four millions of brick per year. They employ from thirty to forty men, and for several years have furnished all the brick that have been used for public buildings and school houses at Norristown. They are now furnishing the brick for the new market house, and for some private buildings at Norristown, besides filling a large number of orders for brick to be used for various other building purposes. Mr. Shaffer's good management of these works has made his business an extensive and a profitable one.

In September, 1888, Mr. Shaffer wedded Annie C. Thornley, whose parents are George and Emma Thornley, of Norristown. Mr. and Mrs. Shaffer have one child, a daughter named Ethel Attalene.

In politics Mr. Shaffer is not prominent. He served as mayor of Norristown from March 6, 1893, to March 6, 1894, and shortly before his term of office expired, declined a re-election to the mayoralty. Previous to this he had served two terms as a councilman, the first one in 1878-79, and the second one in 1880-81. He has been quite prominently connected with the fire department of Norristown for the exceptionally long period of twenty-eight years. Mr. Shaffer has held all the offices of the fire department from president down to treasurer, and also served as treasurer of the Fairmount Fire Engine company for fourteen years.

DR. HOWARD WILSON, V. S., has for the past three years been practicing his profession of veterinary surgeon with great success and profit at Hatboro, and being a young man of excellent education and thoroughly drilled in his calling, has built up a large practice that extends over a very wide territory. Dr. Wilson was born on January 15, 1871, and is a son of Lorenzo F. and Anna (Ritter) Wilson. He is descended from American ancestry, running back at least five generations. His grandfather was a veterinary surgeon, and was well known and very popular in his day. He married and had several children. The father of our subject, Lorenzo F. Wilson is a veteran of the Civil war and parted with one of his legs in the service of his country. This was at the fiercely-contested battle of Antietam. He served until he was totally disabled by the loss of his leg. Mr. Wilson received a thorough common school education. He then became a clerk in a store in Philadelphia, where he remained until his services were needed to help defend the old flag. He married Anna Ritter, and their union was blessed with two children: Eva, and Dr. Howard Wilson.

Having received a public school education, Howard Wilson took a scientific course in the Philadelphia high school. He then entered the New York Veterinary college, from which he graduated with honor in 1892. As soon as he had received his diploma, Dr. Wilson came to Hatboro, where he opened an office and began practice. He soon came to be recognized as a surgeon of ability and one who was thoroughly posted on all the diseases and ailments of horses and cattle and the proper and most modern treatment thereof, and his services were sought accordingly. He is a good student and thoroughly conscientious in his professional relations, so that with a genial disposition and a high standard of character he has become deservedly popular.

Dr. Wilson is an active worker in the Republican party politics of his section, and is now serving a term as justice of the peace. Fraternally he is a member of the Masonic Order and Knights of the Golden Eagle. Dr. Wilson is not married.

HON. M. S. LONGAKER, the present postmaster at Pottstown, is a son of Rufus B. and Elizabeth (Smith) Longaker, and was born December 24, 1842, at Crooked Hill, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania. He obtained his elementary instruction in the public schools of his native place, and completed his education in the Meigs academy at Pottstown. He then engaged in teaching for several years, and about 1863 entered the county treasurer's office as deputy treasurer, under his father, who was then treasurer of Montgomery county. In the spring of 1875 M. S. Longaker was elected burgess of Pottstown, and re-elected in the spring of 1876. In the fall of the latter year he was elected to a seat in the State assembly, and resigned the office of burgess to assume his new duties as a State legislator. On January 20, 1886, Mr. Longaker was appointed postmaster of Pottstown by President Cleveland, and took charge of the office February 16th. He served as postmaster for four and a half years, when he was succeeded by an appointee, under the administration of President Harrison. On August 16, 1894, Mr. Longaker was again appointed to the office by President Cleveland, and once more assumed charge

on September 1st, of that year. He is now discharging the duties of postmaster, and his administration of the office has proved very acceptable to the general public and creditable to himself

For a number of years Mr. Longaker has been a prominent local leader of his party, and has been a delegate and chairman of several Democratic conventions. He is a member of Trinity Reformed church, and a Knights Templar Mason, and has served as treasurer of the blue lodge and chapter for a period of twenty consecutive years. He is a stockholder of the Pottstown Water company, and a manager of the Reading & Perkiomen Turnpike company.

In 1867 Mr. Longaker was married to Diana M. Beerer, a daughter of Joseph Beerer, of Norristown, who had served as treasurer of this county. To that union were born two children: Gertrude, now a clerk in the Pottstown postoffice, and Helen. Mrs. Longaker died in 1872, and in 1876, Mr. Longaker married a sister of his first wife. By this second marriage he had a family of six children: Charles K., Montgomery, Beulah, Mabel, Louis, and Joseph B., the latter now deceased.

Peter Longaker, paternal grandfather of the subject of this sketch, was a native of Lawrenceville, Chester county, Pennsylvania, where he was born March 14, 1786 He died November 1, 1866, aged eighty years. He married Hannah Boyer, daughter of George and Mary Boyer, of Berks county, and reared a family of six children: Rufus B., Mary, who married Abram Kohl, deceased; Louisa, became the wife of Sebastian Kohl; Emmeline, John B. and Frances Elmira, deceased.

Rufus B. Longaker, eldest of the family and father of Hon. Montgomery S. Longaker, became a pupil in the Trappe boarding school, in Montgomery county, at the age of sixteen. On completing his studies he removed to Berks county and engaged in teaching. After two years he returned and became a clerk in a country store at Trappe, where he was employed one year. He then embarked in the mercantile business at Crooked Hill, Pottsgrove township, this county, where he remained from 1840 to 1851. Having been elected recorder of deeds, he removed to Norristown in the latter year, and served in that office for three years.

In 1855 he removed to Pottstown and engaged in the live stock business, buying and selling cattle until about 1860. In 1863 Mr. Longaker was elected on the Democratic ticket as treasurer of Montgomery county, and returned to Norristown. He served two terms in this office. In 1862 he engaged in the wholesale wine and liquor business at Norristown, under the firm name of Longaker & Buskirk. He served at various times as a delegate to the State conventions of his party, and was for three years a member of the Pottstown borough council. For many years he was a member of the board of managers of the Union Mutual Fire and Storm Insurance company of Montgomery county, and a manager of the Reading and Perkiomen Turnpike company. In 1842 he married Elizabeth Smith, a daughter of the late Abram Smith, of Pottstown. Their children were: Montgomery S., whose name heads this sketch; Hannah E., Mrs. Mathias Geist, Horace S., Mary, wife of William H. Thomas; Lewis C., of Bradford, Pennsylvania; and two who died in infancy. Mr. Longaker was a member of the Reformed church. He enjoyed a reputation for integrity and promptness in business, and was extensively acquainted with public men

throughout the State. His life was one of great activity, and was closed by death on September 26, 1892.

DR. J. M. ANDERS, an eminent physician and leading medical authority of this country, and for five years a Professor in the Medico-Chirurgical College at Philadelphia, is a member of one of Montgomery County's oldest and most respected families.

Dr. Anders received his education in the old "Oak Tree" school, the Norristown High school and a Theological seminary at Wadsworth, Ohio. He subsequently read medicine with Dr. G. K. Mechter, and later took a course at the University of Pennsylvania, graduating in 1877 with the degree of M. D., and soon after with the degree of Ph. D. He made a brilliant record as a student at the University, and won a number of prizes. On December 1, 1877, he was appointed a resident physician of the Episcopal Hospital of Philadelphia, and served up to March 31, 1879, when he resigned to pursue the practice of his profession. In 1880 he was appointed assistant physician on the visiting staff of the Episcopal Hospital, and served up to 1885. In this year he was appointed to the Chair of Forestry and the "Relation of Plant Life to Health" in the Bureau of Scientific Information of the Academy of Natural Sciences at Philadelphia. From 1887 up to 1892 he served on the visiting medical staff of the Protestant Episcopal Hospital, and in 1889 was appointed a lecturer on Materia Medica in the Medico-Chirurgical College, and soon succeeded to the Chair of Hygiene, with a seat in the faculty. In 1891 he was appointed to the newly-created Chair of Clinical Medicine, and the following year he succeeded to the Chair of Theory and Practice of Medicine, made vacant by the resignation of Dr. W. P. Waugh, in which position he has ably served ever since. In 1889 he was elected by the Board of Charities to his present position as a member of the medical staff of the Philadelphia Hospital, a position very much coveted by leading physicians. In 1892 he was appointed by Mayor Stuart as one of the Civil Service Examining Board of Hospital Physicians, consisting of three members.

Among the original articles written by Dr. Anders are the following:

"The External and Internal Use of Guaiacol, with Brief Reports of Cases." "Beriberi, with Report of Cases." "Special Wards for the Treatment of Typhoid Fever." "Seasonal Influences in Erysipelas, with Statistics." "Points in the Etiology and Clinical History of Erysipelas." "Complications and Mortality-rate of Erysipelas." "The Treatment of Erysipelas." "A Statistical Study of the Complications of Malaria." "A Statistical Study of Influenza; Its Potency to Lessen the Receptivity of the Body to Malaria, as well as to Increase the Receptivity to Pneumonia, and probably Typhoid Fever." "House Plants as Sanitary Agents." "Forests; their Influence upon Climate and Rain-fall." "The Exhalation of Ozone by Flowering Plants." "Hygienic and Therapeutic Relation of Plants." "House Plants and Lung Disease." "Beneficial Influences of Plants." "Sanitary Influences of Forest Growth." "The Relation of Forests to Health Resorts."

Among the published lectures delivered by Dr. Anders are the following:

"The Diagnosis and Treatment of Catarrhal Dyspepsia." "Treatment of Typhoid Fever: Two Relapses and other Complications—Asthma associated with Emphysema and Chronic Bronchitis." "Specimens from a Case of Impacted Gall-stones, with Fistulous Connection between the Gall Bladder and the Colon; A Case of Irregular Malarial Fever; and a Case of Atrophic Cirrhosis of Liver." "A Case of Typhoid Fever; Numerous Intestinal Hemorrhages, the amount of Blood Lost being Seventy-eight and a-half Ounces; and Obstinate Vomiting, with Recovery." "Acute Pleurisy with Effusion; Interstitial Pneumonia (Chali-

cosis), with Encysted and probably Interlobular Loculated Pleurisy." "Cases Illustrating the Various Forms of Chronic Diffuse Nephritis Mitral Regurgitation following Acute Rheumatism." "Cardiac Dilatation." "Dilatation due to Chronic Valvular Disease; Subsequent Acute Endocarditis; Three Cases of Bronzing of the Skin: one due to Pediculosis Corporis, one to Pulmonary Tuberculosis, and one to Syphilis, Old Age, and Pulmonary Phthisis." "Subacute Pleuritis, with Effusion; Paracentesis."

He is one of the founders and directors of the City Trust, Safe Deposit and Surety Company, and a Director of the Provident Mutual Insurance Company. He is a Republican politically, and a member of Oxford Presbyterian Church. He has been compelled to abandon, to a large extent, general practice, and, since located at 1605 Walnut St., is confining his work almost entirely to consultation and office practice.

Dr. Anders is a member of the Pan-American Medical Congress, the Pennsylvania Forestry Association, the American Medical Association, and his County, City and State Medical Societies. He is also a life member of the Philadelphia Academy of Natural Sciences.

Exact, clear and eloquent as a lecturer, Dr. Anders invests the driest subject of his profession with life, and renders it interesting and instructive. As an author he is exact and comprehensive, and as an original investigator is unprejudiced and progressive, yet does not favor innovation or rash experiment.

He regards his profession in its true light and progressive character, and would keep it abreast of the wonderful advances of the present age.

He knows no grander or nobler field for human effort than that of medicine, and though but in the early prime of matured manhood, yet has contributed much to the improvement and elevation of his profession, which justly stands in the van of earth's leading professions.

GUSTAVUS F. THEEL, M. D., a specialist in nervous and spinal diseases, who resides at Ambler and practices in Philadelphia, is a son of Major Charles F. and Marie (Bonahels) Theel, and was born at Colon, on the Rhine, in Germany, February 15, 1833. Major Charles F. Theel, who received the Cross of the Eagle, for bravery, from the hands of the Emperor William I, of Germany, entered the Prussian army at a very early age. He was in the battle of Waterloo and fought through the Prussian and Danish war. He served with distinction, rose step by step until he became major of his regiment, and when the weight of years disqualified him from active service he resigned. He died January 13, 1895, at the ripe old age of ninety-eight years. He married Marie Bonahels, and reared a family of twelve children.

Gustavus F. Theel was reared at Cologne, Prussia, until he was fourteen years of age, and attended a military school in that German city. When in his fifteenth year he came to the United States, and resided with an uncle at Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where he attended school for two years. He then went to Chicago, Illinois, where he resided with another uncle. Leaving Chicago he returned home, and after attending a military college took full medical courses at the University of Bonn, Germany. He was graduated from both medical schools that he attended, and then became a medical assistant in Berlin for six years. At the end of that time he came to Philadelphia, and after taking the full medical course in Hahneman college, went to Indianapolis, Indiana, where he established a homeopathic college, which he conducted for one year. He then returned to Philadelphia, where he has practiced ever since. In 1885, Dr. Theel purchased property at Ambler, which

is still his place of residence, although practicing in Philadelphia. He makes a specialty of nervous and spinal diseases and blood poisons.

In 1865 Dr. Theel married Eliza Hoffman. To their union were born two children: Joseph, deceased; and Dr. Thomas, engaged in practice with his father in Philadelphia. Mrs. Theel died in 1883, at the age of forty-eight years.

Dr. Theel is a staunch Republican, took an active part in the Garfield and Blaine campaigns of 1880 and 1884, and served in 1892 as burgess of Ambler. He has given many years to the study and practice of his chosen profession and has enjoyed the best of opportunities for thoroughly qualifying himself as a physician. Dr. Theel is a member of W. R. Snyder Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons, and Washington Lodge, Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

SAMUEL P. SEESE, M. D., has been one of the leading physicians of Lansdale since 1884, and on account of his wide and varied experience, covering over twenty years of active practice of medicine in all its departments, he gained the confidence and esteem of the district and is therefore one of the busiest men of his profession in the county.

Dr. Samuel P. Seese is a native of Bucks county and was born in Plumstead township, on January 6, 1849. He is a son of John A. and Mary (Lott) Seese and is of German ancestry, though his forefathers have been citizens of England and this country for many generations. His paternal grandfather, John Seese, was born July 2, 1757, in New York city. He was a farmer by avocation and tilled a very large and fertile tract of land. He served faithfully through the Revolutionary war. On October 7, 1779, he married Elizabeth Kepler, and ten children were born to them: Catharine, Joseph, Sarah, Elizabeth, Jane, John A., Susan, Rebecca, Mary and Ann. John A., the second son and Dr. Seese's father, was born November 25, 1792. He attended the common schools of the district in which he lived and then taught a pay school for a number of years. Later on he learned the trades of carpenter and cabinet maker and worked at them for some years, finally abandoning that avocation to take hold of a farm in Bucks county, where he remained until 1873. After this he resided at North Wales, Montgomery county, where he died March 22, 1882. He was a Democrat in politics, but never took a very prominent part in party work. He also served his country during the latter part of the War of 1812. On August 6, 1829, he married Mary, daughter of Benjamin Lott and grand-niece of George Clymer, signer of the Declaration of Independence. This union was blessed with the following children: William and Sarah, who died young; Elizabeth, married to Samuel Geil; Miranda, intermarried with Isaac G. Freed; Mary and Jennie, deceased; Samuel and Emma.

Dr. Seese was sent through the common schools of his native town. He then became the teacher of a common school at Gardenville, Pa., and remained there several years. Afterwards he took a one year's course at the State Normal school, Millersville, and the following year had charge of the intermediate department of Newark academy, at Newark, N. J. He began to read medicine with Dr. B. K. Johnston, of North Wales, and when he resignad his position in Newark academy, entered the

University of Pennsylvania, from which he graduated in 1874.

Dr. Seese first began to practice the profession at Erwinna, Bucks county, where he remained ten years and was very successful. He, however, saw a better opening at Lansdale, and he located there in 1884, and his present very extensive practice is testimony to the fact that his judgment was right. Besides his office and visiting practice, Dr. Seese is a surgeon of rare ability and is called upon very often to perform operations and attend to persons injured on the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad, as he is the doctor for the company in that district. He is a Democrat like his forefathers, and takes a great interest in political matters, though never making a bid for office.

On the 17th of September, 1874, Dr. Seese and Miss Mary, daughter of Robert Wetherill, of Delaware county, were joined in marriage, and three children have been born to them, Mary, Richard and Gertrude, all of whom are living. Dr. Seese is a member of the following fraternal organizations: Masonic, Patriotic Order Sons of America, and Commandery Sons of America.

WILLIAM D. ZIMMERMAN, the efficient cashier of the First National bank of Conshohocken, is a son of Lorenzo D. and Anna M. (Dager) Zimmerman, and was born September 7, 1854, in Whitpain township, this county. Mr. Zimmerman received his education in the public school of his native township, and subsequently took a course in the Norristown high school. After leaving school he returned home and remained with his father on the farm up to 1875. In that year, through a personal friendship that existed between his uncle, Isaac Zimmerman, who had been a director in the Bank of Montgomery county, and Mr. William H. Slingluff, whom he assisted in making cashier of that institution when only twenty-one years of age, Mr. Slingluff reciprocated this early confidence of Mr. Zimmerman by tendering his nephew a position as book-keeper in the same institution. Mr. Zimmerman entered on the duties of that position September 1, 1875. After serving faithfully in this capacity up to 1889, in recognition of his very satisfactory service, he was asked by Mr. John Slingluff, then president of the Montgomery Trust company, to accept a similar position in that institution, then recently organized and located in the same building. He remained in the capacity of book-keeper in the Trust company up to May, 1890, when he was elected as its secretary and treasurer, in which capacity he continued up to October 1, 1894, when, upon the resignation of William McDermott, the veteran cashier of the First National bank of Conshohocken, he was elected to his present position, at once assuming the duties and responsibilities of the same, after having spent more than nineteen years in various capacities in the two institutions of the Montgomery National bank building of Norristown.

Mr. Zimmerman is a Republican in politics but has never taken an active part in political matters. On April 10, 1879, he was united in marriage with Miss Mary L., a daughter of William W. Baily, a retired builder, formerly of Tamaqua, Pa., but then residing in Plymouth township, this county. This marital relation has been blessed with one child, Frederick.

The original progenitor of that branch of

the Zimmerman family of which our subject is a member, was one of the traditional three brothers who came to this country from Germany about the year 1700, and whose descendants are scattered through parts of New Jersey and eastern Pennsylvania. The earliest Zimmerman of whom any definite information is obtainable, was Christopher Zimmerman, who was a farmer and resided in Worcester township, in the early part of his life. Later and at the time of his death he lived on the old homestead in Whitpain township, and his remains repose in the old Bethel church cemetery in Worcester township. The date of his birth, 1735, is still legible on the weather-worn tombstone. He had a family of seven children: Isaac, Jacob, William, Christopher, Catharine Clemens, Magdalene DeHaven and Susan Supplee. One of his sons, William Zimmerman, grandfather, was born and lived the early part of his life in Worcester township. He was a stonemason by trade but never followed that occupation to any extent. Subsequently, from 1830 to 1835, he was engaged in the lumber business at Philadelphia, in partnership with John Evans, operating under the trading name of Zimmerman & Evans. He afterwards purchased the old homestead farm of two hundred acres in Whitpain, where he resided up to his death. He was a Whig and afterwards a Republican, and a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. He was one of the emergency men in the War of 1812, and was stationed at Marcus Hook near Chester. He married Esther Butler, a daughter of Thomas Butler and Mary Norman Butler, of Whitpain, and four children were born to this marriage: Sylvester and Cecilia, twins; Lorenzo and Franklin. William Zimmerman died November 6, 1862, in the eighty-second year of his age. His wife, Esther, died August 8, 1888, at the age of ninety years. Lorenzo D. Zimmerman, father, was born in Gwynedd township, this county, July 20, 1827. His father soon after removed to Philadelphia, thence to Whitpain, where he received his education at the Ellis school of that township. Here he reared his family and continued in an extensive farming business up to February, 1881, when he retired from active pursuits and removed to Norristown, where he purchased a site at No. 1300 DeKalb street, and erected a handsome residence in which he has since lived in well earned retirement.

In 1853 Mr. Zimmerman married Anna Maria, daughter of Jacob and Caroline Streeper Dager, of Springfield township. To this union were born two children: William D. and George S., the latter at this writing occupies the home farm.

Caroline S. Dager, grandmother, was a daughter of George Streeper, of Whitemarsh, who died in 1864, at the age of eighty-two years. His father was Leonard Streeper, who owned an extensive tract of land in Whitemarsh township during colonial times, from which he donated the ground upon which the church and cemetery at Lafayette Hill are located. George Streeper was married to Elizabeth Hinckel. She was born near Philadelphia in 1779, and reached the age of ninety-two years, her death having taken place in 1871. She is, of course, distinctly remembered by the subject of this sketch.

P. O. WICKART, M. D., who has been practicing medicine with success in and about Salfordville during past years is a man who came here as a stranger, but

soon demonstrated his worth as an experienced practitioner, gaining and retaining the confidence and respect of the community and all with whom he came in contact. Dr. Wickart is a native of Lehigh county, where his ancestors have for many years resided and have helped to build it up and add to its importance. He is the son of Peter and Mary (Person) Wickart, and was born on the 27th of November, 1858. His forefathers were originally Germans, and when they came over to America they located in the Lehigh Valley and contributed to the great Pennsylvania German settlement in that section of the State.

Charles Wickhart, his grandfather, was born in Lehigh county. He was a farmer and owned and successfully worked two hundred acres of the finest land in the valley.

He was a Democrat in principle and precept and took considerable interest in the work of his party in his locality. During many years of an active life he was a member of the Reformed church and was a devout Christian. He was a deacon of his congregation for many years and was beloved by all. He was married and the union was blessed by three children: Peter, Charles and Julian.

Dr. Wickart's father was also born in Lehigh county on the 16th of February, 1827, and followed the pursuits of a farmer all his life and was eminently successful. He also became largely interested in coal mining interests and was well known in the region. Politically he took to the Democratic principles, but did not take a very active part in politics. He was a deacon and trustee of the Reformed church and was an earnest and untiring supporter of Sunday school work. His marriage with Mary Person was productive of a family of three children: Jennie, Alfred and Dr. Wickart.

The common schools of forty years ago did not in any way compare with the system of the present day, but they were sound institutions. It was in this class of schools that Dr. Wickart was initiated into the early stages of an education. He then took a two years' course at the Keystone State Normal school, and after serving some time as a clerk in a drug store began to read medicine. His medical education was prosecuted at the Baltimore Medical college, where he graduated in 1882, after which he took a special advanced course. Having finished his medical training Dr. Wickart went to Ohio, where he remained some time, and then came to Salfordville, where he now enjoys a commendable practice. Dr. Wickart has made an enviable name for himself as a general practitioner and has a very bright future before him.

On the 30th day of June, 1882, Dr. Wickart married Grace B., the cultured daughter of George and Kate Long, and this union has been fruitful in the birth of five children, two only of whom, however, now live to bless the home happiness of their parents. The children are: Peter, deceased, who was born April 14, 1883; Levi, deceased, born July 7, 1884; Lewis W., deceaaed, born July 13, 1887; Benjamin, born February 18, 1890, and J. A., born September 31, 1893.

MONTGOMERY EVANS, ESQ., a prominent attorney of Norristown, this county, is a son of Thomas and Mary (Schwenk) Evans, and was born November 18, 1853, in Limerick township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania. The old world

home of that branch of the Evans family, of which the subject of this biographical record is a worthy scion, is in the historic little principality of Wales. The coming to this country of the founder of the family, William Evans, is co-existent with the early colonial history of the country. In 1698 William Evans, together with his wife and family, settled in what is now Limerick township, Montgomery county. In this vicinity he and members of his family became the owners of a large tract of land, part of which is yet in the posession of his descendants. The first deed bears date of 1716, from the London Land company. William Evans died soon after emigrating to this country. One of his children, Owen, the second son, was the lineal ancestor of the subject of this sketch. He became owner of a portion of the Evans estate and resided all his life in Limerick township, engaged in agricultural pursuits. He married Mary Davis, who died November 28, 1854. One of the sons of Owen Evans was David Evans, the great-grandfather of Montgomery Evans, born January 22, 1730, died October 23, 1800. His wife was Anna Brooke. One of his sons was Owen Evans, the grandfather, who was born October 23, 1767, died April 14, 1845, in Limerick township, and following in the footsteps of several generations of his ancesters, followed farming as a means of securing a livelihood. He was a Democrat of the Jeffersonian stamp and exhibited a commendable interest in the administration of local political affairs. Religiously he was a member of the Society of Friends. He married Rachel Brooke, and the following children were born of this union: Anna, Robert, David, John, David, 2nd, Matthew and Thomas Brooke.

Thomas Brooke Evans, father, was born on the old family homestead in Limerick township on April 21, 1809. He attended the common schools and obtained a fair education for that day, and taught for a time in the public schools of the county in his younger days. He learned the trade of a tanner, and for a time followed that trade in Chester county and in Limerick township, and then located upon a farm in the same township, where he followed farming the remainder of his life, dying on December 13, 1863. In political texture he was a Democrat, and being a man of good judgment was elected to the office of justice of the peace a number of terms and served as a clerk to the county commissioners and directors of the poor of Montgomery county a number of years. His marriage with Mary Schwenk, daughter of Jacob Schwenk, resulted in the birth of eight children: R. Brooke, who resides on the homestead farm in Limerick township; Franklin and Montgomery, both died in early boyhood; Mary E., wife of Frank S. Saylor, a wire manufacturer of St. Louis, Missouri; Charlotte, died in 1892; Emma, wife of Garrett E. Brownback, a butter manufacturer, of Linfield, this county; Montgomery, 2nd; and Zella, who died at the age of five years.

Montgomery Evans obtained his elementary and preparatory education in the public schools of Limerick township and in the select schools of Phœnixville, Spring City and Norristown. He then entered Lafayette college, at Easton, from which educational institution of high standing he graduated in 1875. Leaving college he took a position as principal of the public schools of Montrose, Susquehanna county, this State, and remained there two years. At the end of that time he came to Norristown and registered as a student at law in

the office of the late B. E. Chain, and was admitted to the bar of Montgomery county on November 30, 1878. He at once entered upon the practice of his profession at Norristown, and has remained there ever since actively and successfully engaged in the practice of the law. In the spring of 1888 he formed a partnership with Louis M. Childs, under the firm name of Childs & Evans, which relation still continues. He is vice-president of the Norristown Trust and Safe Deposit company; and secretary and treasurer of the Norristown Land and Improvement company, a Democrat in matters political and a strict and consistent member of the Central Presbyterian church, of Norristown. He is an elder in this church organization, has been superintendent of its Sabbath school for a period of twelve years, and a member of the board of trustees for the same length of time.

He is a member of the Montgomery County Law association, and since 1885 the treasurer of the law library committee of the county.

On November 30, 1886, Mr. Evans and Miss Cara G., a daughter of Rev. James G. Ralston, of Norristown, and formerly proprietor of Oakland female seminary, were united in marriage. Two children, Dorothy L. and Roger, deceased, were the fruits of this marriage.

As a lawyer Mr. Evans stands deservedly high and is literate in all the intricacies and subtleties of the law. He is a careful student of legal and judicial literature as well as of human nature, possesses a keen and discriminating mind and is always alert in the detection of technical points and in legal manœuvering. Personally he is affable and dignified and commands the highest esteem.

HON. MILTON H. WALTERS, an ex-member of the Pennsylvania legislature and a successful business man of Montgomery county, is a son of John K. and Kate (Hoffman) Walters, and was born September 4, 1848, in Marlborough township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania. His paternal grandfather upon arriving at maturity embarked in the pursuits of husbandry in Centre county, this State. Industrious, frugal and of strict integrity, he won not only pecuniary success, but the confidence and respect of all who had business or social relations with him. Politically he was a Democrat, whilst religiously he was a devout and consistent member of the Lutheran church. He wedded, and the following children, now all deceased, blessed their union: John, Jacob, George, and Anna. John K. Walters, father, was born in Upper Salford township, this county, and died at the age of sixty-three years. He was reared upon his father's farm, and attended the subscription schools obtaining only an elementary education. Leaving school at the age of sixteen years, he soon began life on his own account as a tiller of the soil and followed it until death closed his useful, industrious, and successful career. He was a Democrat and a member of the Lutheran church, in the work of which he took a prominent part, holding the office of deacon, and his life was an exemplification of cardinal Christian virtues. His marriage union with Kate Hoffman was blessed in the birth of the following children: Maria, who became the wife of David Kline; Charles, Ephraim, Emaline, Oswin, and Milton H., subject.

Milton H. Walters' boyhood days were spent after the fashion of a typical farmer boy, doing chores about and working upon the farm during the summer months and

attending school during the winter. At school he was quick and apt in his studies. After attending the common schools until he had mastered the course of instruction provided in them, he attended Washington Hall Institute, at the Trappe, one session and Freeland seminary for the same length of time, and so rapid was the progress made that at the early age of fifteen he was qualified to teach and received the county superintendent's license or certificate. He taught four terms successfully in Marlborough township and then relinquished teaching to engage in the milling business, having learned the trade with his brother. For sixteen years he followed the fortunes of a miller in this township. On the economic questions of the day Mr. Walters believes in a Jacksonian enforcement of Jeffersonian principle and has always accorded it his suffrage, uniformly taking an active interest in the success of the Democratic party. He is a man well recognized for his good judgment and fair dealing and in 1883 was elected to the judicial office of justice of the peace, and at the end of his first term was re-elected, but resigned on December 31, 1890, to accept a higher office. The people of his district, recognizing in him those qualities of head and heart that go to make up a good legislator, elected him in 1890 to represent them in the Pennsylvania legislature, and his course in that body was such as reflected honor upon himself and was entirely satisfactory to his constituents. He has always been a staunch friend of the cause of popular education and has served continuously as school director from 1880 to the present time (1895), acting as secretary of the board since 1883. In his business relations and transactions he has exhibited the same rare good judgment that has characterized him in other phases of life's activities, and as a business man has been eminently successful, posessing large and valuable land interests, among which are the following: two well improved farms one of sixty-eight acres and the other of sixty-five acres in Marlborough township; joint owner of forty-eight acres adjacent to the fair ground near Pottstown; and a nicely improved small farm at Royer's Ford. Mr. Walters has been twice married. His first union resulted in the birth of two children: Irvin G. and Agnes K., both deceased. His second marital alliance has been blessed in the birth of three children: Laura, Howard and Norma. Mr. Walters is affable and well liked and his success and popularity among his neighbors and acquaintances is well deserved and lasting.

JOHN C. HATHAWAY, who owns shirt factories at Norristown and Lansdale, is a son of John C., sr., and Barbara Ann Hathaway. He was born at Norristown, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, in September, 1851. The Hathaway family is of English origin and John C. Hathaway, sr., was born in Delaware county, near the city of Wilmington, in the State of Delaware. He received a common English education and learned the trade of carpenter, which he followed for some time at Chestnut Hill. He afterwards came to Norristown and engaged in contracting on a small scale. He built up an extensive business, and at the time of his death, was one of the largest contractors at Norristown, employing quite a force of hands and erecting many buildings in various parts of the borough and in the adjacent suburbs and surrounding county. Mr. Hathaway was

in religious matters inclined to the faith and practice of the Quakers or Society of Friends. He was patriotic, and when the government called for men to maintain the union, he responded to the call. He enlisted in company C, 2nd Pennsylvania cavalry, and participated in many hard battles and numerous skirmishes. He contracted rheumatism from cold and exposure while in the Union service, and died from the effects of that disease, when in the sixty-sixth year of his age. Mr. Hathaway wedded Barbara Ann Kitzginer, whose father, John Kitzginer, was a native and resident of Delaware county. Mrs. Hathaway lived to be fifty years of age. Mr. and Mrs. Hathaway reared a family of four children, three sons and a daughter: George, who went to California; John C., the subject of this sketch; William and Mary.

John C. Hathaway was reared in his native town, received his education in the Norristown public schools, and at fourteen years of age, entered the employ of a contractor, with whom he worked for two years. He then entered the employ of his mother, who was then carrying on the manufacture of pantaloons at Norristown, and remained with her up to 1869, when he embarked, on DeKalb street, in shirt manufacturing on a small scale. Three years later he removed to his present place of business, 520-522, George street, near West Marshall street. He opened out there in rather an unpretentious manner, safely weathered the financial panic in 1873, and yearly increased his business until he now has a large demand for his products in many of the eastern cities. He has remodeled, enlarged and fully equipped his factory, and employs a force of one hundred hands. Mr. Hathaway also owns and operates a shirt factory at Lansdale, which he started in 1894, and whose capacity and output are such that he there employs fifty hands. No panic or financial depression has effected his business, and in 1893 and 1894, when the distrust and uncertainty of the times caused many shirt factories to either close down or run on half time, his trade was such that the output of his Norristown factory was five hundred dozens of shirts per week.

On Christmas day, 1869, Mr. Hathaway was united in marriage with Emma E. Shuber. Mr. and Mrs. Hathaway have six children living.

In politics Mr. Hathaway is a Republican and has served three years as a member of the borough council. He is a member of Lynwood Lodge, Ancient Order of United Workmen.

JOHN G. HUNSICKER, proprietor of the central store of Souderton, has been located in that town for the past two years, and is well and favorably known all over the county as a business man of sound principles and thorough mercantile training. He was born on June 4, 1850, and is the son of Isaac C. and Mary (Garges) Hunsicker, and is a descendant of American-German ancestry. His paternal great-grandfather, Isaac Hunsicker, was a native of this county. He was the father of thirteen children. His grandfather was also named Isaac Hunsicker, and after getting a common school education, he went to work on a farm. He followed the peaceful life of a farmer until his death and was respected by all who knew him. On February 4, 1845, he married a Miss Cassell, and after the death of his first wife married Miss Stauffer. He was the father of seven

children. Isaac C. Hunsicker, who is the father of the subject of this sketch, was born October 3, 1819, and was a farmer by occupation, working a fertile farm and becoming prosperous. He was a man of excellent judgment and held the confidence of his neighbors. The Hunsicker family were all members of the Mennonite church and this gentleman was very active in church work. He was the father of the following children: James, born January 7, 1846, deceased; Isaac, born January 7, 1848, deceased; John G., born June 4, 1850; Anna, born February 26, 1852, deceased; and Henry G., born February 10, 1856. He is a Republican in politics, and is still living at the age of seventy-six years.

John G. Hunsicker was sent to the common schools and then spent one term at Freeland seminary. On finishing his schooling he accepted a position as clerk in the wholesale dry goods store of Romberger, Long & Co., of Philadelphia, where he remained four years and then resigned to start in the general store business at Lederachville. Later on he engaged in the same business in Bucks county and remained there four years. During this time he assisted in establishing the first creamery in that vicinity. Then he bought the creamery at Branch Valley. In 1895 he came to Souderton and bought the store he now manages with such skill and profit. Besides being a prosperous merchant, Mr. Hunsicker is a man of enterprise and public spirit. He assisted in organizing the Trust Company at Lansdale and is at present a stockholder in that concern. He makes a specialty of butter in a mercantile way and handles ten thousand pounds of that article every week. In every thing that Mr. Hunsicker has taken an interest, he has prospered. He started in the world on nothing and his first position netted him only $3 a week. But his indomitable energy and strong ambition carried him onward and upward until now he holds the most prominent place in the neighborhood and is generally respected for his business ability and integrity.

Mr. Hunsicker was married October 30, 1873, to Sallie, daughter of Hiram Heil, and this marriage has been blessed with six children, five of whom are living. The children are: Harry H., born August 2, 1874; Charles, born January 4, 1877; Irvin, born January 2, 1879, now deceased; Lilly, born January 13, 1881; Sallie, born September 4, 1883; and Lizzie, born August 24, 1889. The family are regular attendants of the Reformed church. In politics, Mr. Hunsicker is a Republican, but does not hold office or aspire to do more than to assist in preserving the prosperity of his country.

SAMUEL C. MOYER, M. D., who since 1892 has been a very successful homeopathic physician at Lansdale, is a native of Bucks county, this State, and was born on November 17, 1846. He is a descendant of good old German-American ancestry. His paternal grandfather was Joseph M. Moyer, who was a prosperous farmer in Bucks county, a prominent member of the Mennonite church, and was first a Whig and then a Republican in political faith. He married, and they had several children.

The father of our subject was born in Bucks county, received his education in the common schools of his day and then began farming, following that avocation all his life. He owned a productive farm

in Bucks county, which he cultivated with profit. He was an active member of the Mennonite congregation of this township and was a staunch, unswerving Republican in politics. He married and they had five children; Henry, born March 17, 1837; Barbara, born March 21, 1840; Mary, born January 20, 1843, and married to Daniel Christman; Dr. Samuel C., and John, who was born November 29, 1851. Mr. Moyer died on April 4, 1885, and his wife died January 13, 1881.

Dr. Samuel C. Moyer was given a common school education, also attended the Quakertown normal institute and afterwards spent two terms at Wadsworth seminary, Ohio. He subsequently read medicine and graduated from Hahnemann Medical college, Philadelphia, on March 12, 1872. On securing his diploma Dr. Moyer became associated with Dr. Detwiller, of Bucks county, and practiced his profession with commendable success. He remained there until he saw a good opening in Lansdale and vicinity. Since locating in the above mentioned locality he has built up a very large practice and is deservedly popular in that neighborhood. Dr. Moyer is a thorough student and a close observer, and his long years of experience have made him one of the leading physicians of his school in Montgomery county. He is a Republican in politics and an earnest supporter of the party ticket. He is a member of the Mennonite faith, like his forefathers, and is very active in church work. His first wife was Mary Swartley. By this union he became the father of three children: Ella, William, and John, who is now deceased. His second marriage resulted in the birth of six children: Winfield, born December 15, 1884; Herbert, born February 7, 1886; Sarah, born March 8, 1889; Katie, born October 19, 1890; Samuel, born April 10, 1893; and Emma G., born February 9, 1895.

ELWOOD G. GILBERT, V. S., a well known veterinary surgeon, was born July, 1855, in Bucks county, this State, and is a son of Joseph S. and Mariah (Most) Gilbert. His parents were both natives of Bucks county, and were descended from good old German stock. Joseph S. Gilbert (father) was a prominent and successful farmer of Bucks county, and a steadfast adherent of the Quaker faith. He was of a quiet disposition, unassuming in manner, and never aspired to public office. He died much respected by all who knew him in 1872. He married Mariah Most, and by that union had a family of several children.

Dr. Elwood G. Gilbert attended the public schools of Newtown, Bucks county, during his youth, and as he emerged into manhood began an apprenticeship at the milling business with David R. Warman, at Frenchtown, New Jersey. He subsequently followed that business for eight years, and in 1879 began the study of veterinary surgery under Dr. Isaiah Michner, the distinguished veterinary surgeon of Carversville, Bucks county, Pennsylvania. After two years' study with Dr. Michner, Dr. Gilbert went to New York and entered the American veterinary college of that city, from which he graduated in 1884, receiving a silver medal for having passed the best practical examination of any student in his class. In the fall of that year Dr. Gilbert located at Pottstown, Montgomery county, for the practicing of his profession. He has now been in active practice for eleven years, and during that

time, has by ability and energy, built up a large and lucrative business, winning at the same time a reputation in his profession of which he may justly feel proud. His practice now extends over several counties of the States of Pennsylvania and New Jersey, and he is frequently called for consultation by some of the most distinguished veterinary surgeons of Philadelphia and other large cities.

In August, 1879, Dr. Gilbert was united in marriage to Susanna Eichlin, a daughter of Lewis Eichlin, of Bucks county, Pennsylvania. To their union have been born three children : Honore, Lizzie and Willie. In politics the Doctor is a Republican, and fraternally a member of the Free and Accepted Masons.

THOMAS H. BARKER, a successful business man and a member of the important woolen manufacturing firm of Booth & Bro. of Gladwyne, is the eldest son of Edward and Elizabeth (Hardy) Barker, and was born at Todd Morton, Delaware county, Pennsylvania, November 12, 1849. His paternal grandfather, Thomas Barker, was a cotton spinner and worked for many years in English cotton factories. He left Olden, England, in 1842, and settled at Todd Morton, Delaware county, where he afterwards died. He married in England, and his son, Edward, came with him to this country. Edward Barker was born at Olden, England, in 1823, received an ordinary education and learned the trade of spinner, which he followed for upwards of twenty-five years after coming to this country. In 1868, he came to Montgomery county, and rented the old mill property on Mill creek and was engaged for two years in the manufacture of woolen yarn. The mill then burned and Mr. Barker lived a retired life until his death in 1883. He was a Democrat until after Buchanan's election and then became a Republican. He was a member of the Episcopal church, and Leeperville Lodge, Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Edward Barker in 1847 married Elizabeth Hardy and to their union were born three sons and two daughters : Thomas H.; George and Henry, who are both dead ; Willimina; and Mary, wife of Thomas Donnelly. Mrs. Barker was a Miss Hardy before marriage.

Thomas H. Barker was sent at nine years of age from his native place to West Philadelphia, where he attended the public schools until 1865, and then became a card feeder in the cotton and woolen mill of James Greenwood at Forty-seventh and Market streets. After two years spent in the employ of Mr. Greenwood, he came to Lower Merion township and drove a team and also acted at times as engineer for his father. After the burning of the mill in 1870, he went back to Philadelphia and rented the factory at Forty-seventh and Market streets, which he operated up to 1872. In that year he and William Booth (a half-brother) formed a partnership under the firm name of Booth & Brother and became possessors of the Rose Glen mill on Mill creek, which they have operated ever since in the manufacture of carpet yarn. This mill was built by Samuel Nippes in 1814 and used for some years as a gun factory. It was afterwards used as a carpet yarn mill by James Ledward, and later for the same purpose by Thomas Schofield. The present firm commenced with but ten hands and now have a large force of employees.

Mr. Barker married Josephine Conrad, a

daughter of Jacob Conrad. Mr. and Mrs. Barker have a family of the following sons and daughters: William, Thomas J., Conrad, Frank K., Charles F., Margaret H., and Eva.

Thomas H. Barker is a staunch Republican and has served of late years as a delegate to all the important State and county conventions of his party. He is a member of the Episcopal church; Merion Lodge No. 260, Independent Order of Odd Fellows; Lodge No. 219, Knights of Pythias, and has served several times as representative to the State Grand Lodge of the Odd Fellows and of Pythian Knighthood. In addition to these two secret organizations he is a member of ten other secret and beneficial orders, besides four Republican and several social clubs. Mr. Barker is a thirty-two degree or Scottish Rite Mason, having passed through lodge, chapter, council, commandery and consistory.

CHARLES B. HOUGH, M. D., one of the successful physicians of Ambler, and a relative of General Ulysses S. Grant, is a son of James F. and Margaret (Fries) Hough, and was born at Ogontz, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, October 31, 1854. He was taken by his parents, in 1865, to Bucks county, and received his education in the public schools, Hatboro private school, Carversville Normal school and Doylestown English classical school, from which latter educational institution he was graduated tn 1874. Leaving school he studied medicine with Dr. Frank Swartzlander, of Doylestown, and then entered Jefferson Medical college, from which he was graduated in 1878, with the degree of M. D. Immediately after graduating he located at Prospectville, where he practiced for three years. He then removed to Three Tuns, and a year later, came to Ambler, where he has been in successful practice ever since.

In 1887 Dr. Hough married Mary Paul Hallowell, M. D., a graduate of the Woman's Medical college, and a practicing physician at Swarthmore, in Delaware county. They have three children: William J., Margaret and Tacy.

Dr. Charles B. Hough is a Republican in politics, and has been for several years a member of the Reformed church. He has served as school director and as health officer of his borough and is a member of Ambler Lodge, Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

The Hough family is of distinguished Norman-French ancestry, and the original name, De la Hough, was subsequently changed to De Hough, then La Hough, and finally written Hough. The family came into England with William the Conqueror, in 1066, and two centuries later, one of its member, Richard Hough, who resided at Macclesfield, in Chestershire, resolved upon settling in the new world. He came in 1683, to Makefield in Bucks county, where in the ensuing year, he married Margery Clowes, by whom he had five children. Their son, Joseph Hough, sr., wedded Elizabeth West, and was the father of Joseph, jr., who married Mary Tompkin and reared a family of seven children. One of these children was Benjamin Hough, sr., who married Hannah Simpson, a sister of John Simpson, the maternal grandfather of General Ulysses S. Grant. Benjamin and Hannah Hough had a son, Benjamin Hough, jr., who resided at Newville, Bucks county, where he owned a large tract of land and had a general mercantile store.

He was a man of extensive means for his day and by marriage had eleven children: John, Silas, Simpson, Samuel, Benjamin, George, Harry, James F., Ellen, wife of G. E. Bryan; Jennie and Anna. The eighth son, James F. Hough, was born in Bucks county, attended boarding school and learned the trade of miller with Chas. Bossler, at Shoemakersville, now Ogontz. After remaining at Shoemakersville for five years, he removed near Doylestown, Bucks county, where he bought a farm and mill, which he disposed of five years later to become the owner of the Horsham flouring mill. He operated the last named mill for eight years and then sold it to purchase a farm in Bucks county, where he followed farming for ten years. He then established a general mercantile store at Ambler and later on went to Atlantic city, New Jersey, where he died in 1889.

He was a Republican politically, and married Margaret Fries. To James F. and Margaret Hough were born three children: Dr. Charles B., Horace, and Ellen, wife of J. S. Buchanan.

W. E. PHILLIPS, a leading citizen and representative farmer of the southern part of the county, is a son of Jonathan C. and Sarah (Abrams) Phillips, and was born in Upper Merion township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, May 9, 1856. The founder of the American branch of the Phillips family was Griffith Phillips, who came from Wales, in 1731, and settled on the William Penn farm in Upper Merion township. His son, Jonathan Phillips, a prominent citizen and farmer and who helped to organize the first Philadelphia market, was the father of Samuel D. Phillips, a prominent surveyor and large landholder. Samuel D. Phillips was a stirring and progressive man and started the movement to organize the first Norristown Baptist church, in which he was a deacon up to the time of his death. He was widely known throughout his own and adjoining counties, his advice often being sought on matters of importance, and died in 1861, aged seventy-two years. He married Theodosia Cleaver, and their children were: Jonathan C., William E., and Charles D. The eldest son, Jonathan C. Phillips, born 1814, and died 1884, on the old homestead, and like his ancestors for three generations before him, was a farmer. He attended the old subscription schools and Rev. Samuel Aaron's celebrated academy, and then devoted his life to agricultural pursuits. He was a Republican and Baptist, and a leading advocate of the Grange movement, being a member and past officer up to his death, of Merion Grange, No. 112, Patrons of Husbandry. In 1845 he married Sarah Abrams, whose father was Joseph Abrams, a resident of Upper Merion, Pa. They had six children: Anna (deceased), Joseph A., Martha E., Mrs. F. S. Maniel, Samuel D. Jr., (deceased), William E., and Ella M., now dead.

William E. Phillips was reared and has always resided on the old homestead, purchased by Griffith Phillips nearly two centuries ago, from Wm. Penn, and from which circumstance it is known as "Wm. Penn's Farm," and which has always been in the family. He received his education in the district schools, John W. Loch's academy and Lewisburg university (now Bucknell university) from which well known institution he graduated with honor in 1877 and received the degree of B. S. Leaving

college he was manager of his father's farm until the death of the latter. He then engaged in the hardware business at Norristown, but two years later returned to the old homestead farm where he has been engaged ever since in farming and raising improved breeds of horses. Mr. Phillips has done and is doing much to improve the stock of horses in the county. He is a Republican politically, a member of the first Baptist church at Norristown, Pa., and superintendent of King of Prussia Sunday school since 1888. He is also a member of Merion Grange and like his father is a progressive farmer and leader in agricultural pursuits.

On October 18th, 1886, Mr. Phillips married Hannah A. Rapp, a daughter of Joseph E. and Rachel A. Rapp, of Norristown. Mr. and Mrs. Phillips have one child, Joseph Leon, who was born June 15, 1888.

G. W. EGOLF, has been a well known and highly successful manufacturer of clothing at Harleysville for many years. He is a native of this town and was born February 22, 1860. He is a son of John G. and Sarah (Leister) Egolf He is of German ancestry, his paternal grandfather, having been born in Baden Baden, Germany, March 1800. He was a well known farmer, a Democrat and a devout Christian, and came to Philadelphia in 1854, at which time he located in Philadelphia and resided there up to the time of his death. He was the father of the following children: Charles, Caroline Fertig, *nee* Keener; John G., Elizabeth Dush, Sophia Foltz, Rosa Turner.

Mr. Egolf's father was born in Baden Baden, Germany, on April 1, 1832. He was a tailor by trade and followed cutting for several years. He came to Harleysville in 1865 and established himself as a manufacturing tailor. He was very successful in business, and in 1888 sold his establishment to his son, George, and came to Philadelphia and carried on the grocery business for four years, up to May 24, 1895. He is a Democrat and a member of Grace Reformed church, of Philadelphia. Twelve children blessed his fireside. They are: William, who died young; George, the subject of this sketch; Laura, wife of Montgomery Linderman; Sally, wife of Benjamin F. Gerhab; Mary, wife of Joseph Frederick; Henry, Ida, wife of Samuel B. Cassel; Samuel, Kate, Ella, Harvey and Cloid. He is a member of Perkiomenville Lodge, I. O. O. F., No. 367.

George Egolf was given a common school education and graduated when he was sixteen years old. He then entered his father's store, and after a few years was taken into parnership. At the expiration of two years he became sole owner of the establishment. He has ever since conducted a constantly growing business and his sense of integrity has earned for him the highest respect.

Politically Mr. Egolf is a Democrat. He is a member of the Reformed church and prominent in the administration of its affairs. He is also a member of the following secret organizations: Lansdale Lodge, No. 558, F. and A. M.; the lodge of Odd Fellows of Perkiomenville, No. 367, and Lodge No. 18, O. U. of A. M., of Montgomery Council. On January 22, 1880, he married Miss Emma S Kindig, and this marriage has resulted in a family of four children. These are: George H., Anna K., Sally K. and Elva.

ANDREW J. SMITH, now a resident, of Jenkintown, this county, is a son of Daniel and Eliza (Delaney) Smith, and was born in the county of Bucks, Pennsylvania, on the old homestead, still in possession of the family, June 25, 1841.

The founding of the Smith family in this county is traceable to Welsh progenitors. The first of the lineal descendants of which anything definitely is known is Captain Smith, grandfather of Andrew J., whose residental city was Philadelphia. He followed the sea for a livelihood, and for many years was in command of merchant vessels owned by the late Stephen Girard. He remained in his employ almost throughout life and died at sea. Daniel Smith (father) was a native and a resident of Philadelphia, where he lived until his death in 1851. His business was that of a leather currier, at which he worked in his native city for Robert Pechim. This was his life work. Politically, he affiliated with the Democratic party, to which he gave very liberal support. In his religious predilections he was an Episcopalian, and for many years was the superintendent of the Sunday school connected with Christ church, Philadelphia. He was a zealous Christian worker and a faithful churchman. In the year 1821 Daniel Smith espoused in marriage Eliza Delaney, who gave birth to five children: Caroline, deceased; Mary, John, James and Andrew J.

The subject of this annal, during his early childhood, removed to Philadelphia with his parents, and remained in that city until ten years of age. His education was obtained in the public schools of Philadelphia and Jenkintown, in which latter place he attended school during the period intervening the age of ten and sixteen years. Subsequently he entered the general store of Charles Harper, of Jenkintown, with whom he remained four years, after which he was placed in charge of the store of George Peirson, at Weldon, this county, with whom he continued the two succeeding years. At the expiration of this time he was seized with an illness that incapacitated him for business actively for an additional two years. After his recuperation he entered the employ of Henry Danbert, an iron merchant, and remained with him until his appointment as postmaster of the village of Jenkintown by President Andrew Johnson in the year 1865. He held office throughout Johnson's administration, and then, in partnership with B. W. Fleck, purchased the iron business of Mr. Danbert, which was henceforth conducted by the firm of Smith & Fleck for some three or four years. Succeeding this venture he purchased a property located on York pike, and started the first bakery in the village, which remained under his control for fourteen years. After a somewhat varied employment up to the year 1890, he entered the feed and lumber business with Samuel L. Schively, which has been continued down to the present time. In his fraternal relations Mr. Smith was a member of both the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and a Mason.

He is a staunch Democrat in politics, has served as school director and councilman, and as president of council in Jenkintown borough. He is a member of the Episcopal church, in which he is a vestryman, and also was a director of the Jenkintown Building and Loan Association for ten years.

In 1868 Mr. Smith married Mary C. Zane, by whom six children have been born: W. Raymond, E. Gertrude, Francis C., Amanda, Alfred and Herbert.

CHARLES W. HUMPHREYS, real estate assessor of Lower Merion township, is a son of Charles and Mary Ann (Burrows) Humphreys, and was born at Humphreysville, now Bryn Mawr, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, April 16, 1845. His paternal grandfather, Benjamin Humphries, was a blacksmith by trade and a Whig in politics, and passed his life at Humphreysville, where he died in 1863 at the age of eighty-six years. His son, Charles Humphreys, was born November 2, 1802, and after leaving school, learned the trade of carpenter which he followed up to the time of his death on April 7, 1861. He was an elder in the Methodist Episcopal church, and a Lincoln Republican in 1860. He was an honest, upright and highly respected man, and in 1831 purchased the place and erected buildings where his son, the subject of this sketch, now resides. Charles Humphreys was a member of the Minute Men, a military organization that met at Merion Square and in every way was patriotic and loyal to the Federal government. In 1826 he married Mary Ann Burrows. To their union were born nine children: Lydia, now dead; Jessie B.; Rachel, wife of E. A. Johns, of Philadelphia; Mary W.; Elizabeth; Sarah; Fannie; Annie L.; and Charles W., whose name appears at the head of this sketch.

Charles W. Humphreys was reared at his native place and received his education in the Bryn Mawr public schools and the Friends' Central High school of Philadelphia. He was then engaged in the leather and finding business in Philadelphia from 1862 up to 1888, in which year he was elected real estate assessor of Lower Merion township. At the end of his term he was re-elected two times. He is now serving his third term and has been very successful in assessing the real estate of one of the wealthiest townships in the State.

In July, 1870, Mr. Humphreys married Bell Palmer, of Philadelphia. They have three children, two sons and a daughter: Charles E., who was graduated from Princeton college in 1893, and is a civil engineer; Florence A.; and Warren P., now a student at Haverford college.

In politics Charles W. Humphreys has always been a Republican. He served as school director from 1882 to 1888, and has not missed a delegate or regular election since 1865. Mr. Humphreys has been active in various ways for the benefit of his community. He is a member and past master of Cassia Lodge No. 273, Free and Accepted Masons, of Ardmore, and a member and past officer of American Star Lodge No. 53, United Order of American Mechanics of Bryn Mawr, and was one of the original members of the Merion Cricket club of Bryn Mawr. He is a member of the Espicopal church.

ELMER G. KRIEBEL, M. D., one of the young and rising physicians of Montgomery county, is a son of Henry and Elizabeth Kriebel, and was born in Berks county, Pennsylvania July 27, 1867. Henry Kriebel was also a native of Berks county, and followed farming and milling in the early part of his life. He was a man of prominence in his community and filled various local positions of trust and responsibility. He served continuously for several years as director of a National bank in Berks county, was postmaster at Hereford, which was near his birthplace, for over fifteen years, and served his township as a member

of its school board for a number of years. Henry Kriebel was a Democrat in politics, and died in November, 1893. Mr and Mrs. Kriebel were the parents of eight children, as follows: Howard; Lewis; Calvin; Regina; Sallie, wife of Adam S. Urffer; Dr. E. G. (subject); Andrew; and Asher.

Dr. Elmer G. Kriebel received his elementary education in the public schools of Hereford township, Berks county, and then went to the state of Wisconsin, where he spent one year in the University of Wisconsin, at Madison, the State capital. Leaving Wisconsin, he went to Toronto, Canada, and entered the Ontario Veterinary college of that city, from which he was graduated March 24, 1891. Leaving Ontario college he was engaged for one year as a veterinary surgeon. He then resolved to qualify himself for another sphere of labor in life, and in 1892 entered Jefferson Medical college, of Philadelphia, from which well known institution he was graduated May 9, 1894. During the same year, on June 11th, he passed the Pennsylvania State medical board of examination, and after viewing various locations for a suitable field of practice, selected his present place, where on September 1, 1894, he formed a partnership with Dr. James R. Care, who was the successor of Dr. Meshtler of that place. Drs. Care and Kriebel have an extensive practice, which requires the larger part of their time. Dr. Kriebel is not active in politics, but gives his time to the practice of his chosen profession.

DAVID HARMER, a leading carriage manufacturer of Jenkintown, was born in Cheltenham township, this county, on the Brock property, September 15, 1834, and is a son of Samuel and Deborah A. (Smith) Harmer. His paternal grandfather, James Harmer was a life-long resident of Cheltenham township, a farmer and shoemaker by vocation, and a large land holder, owning property at one time from Jenkintown to Glenside station. He was a Quaker both by descent and through individual conviction, and possessed many of the virtues of a good citizen and a progressive man. In connection with farming, he was a large fruit grower and probably the first in his section of the county to give special attention to the cultivation of peaches. He was also a pioneer in the dairy business and very early established a milk route in the city of Philadelphia. Aside from purely business interests, he was a warm friend and patron of popular education, and donated the ground upon which the Harmer school building was erected, now torn down. He was a Whig in politics. His union in marriage with Mary Thomas resulted in the birth of nine children. He died about the year 1853 or '54.

Samuel Harmer was born February 27, 1802, and was brought up on one of his father's farms near Glenside station. He received his education in the public schools and at Abington Friend's school, located near by. After the period of his school days, he learned the trade of shoemaking, which he followed for a while and then returned to farm life, which henceforth became his leading occupation. He owned the farm now in the possession of the Griffith estate. He was a nominal Republican only, but took an exceedingly marked interest in church affairs. He was a strong Methodist, served as class leader for a number of years and was largely instrumental in the establishment of the house of worship of that sect at Harmer Hill. Through his relig-

ious zeal and constant exertion in behalf of the cause, he left an indelible impress upon the church congregation with which he was so long and so actively identified. He married Deborah A. Smith on February 27, 1827. Nine children resulted: Caroline, intermarried with Christopher Ottinger; Henry S.; Hannah, deceased; Harriet, widow of George Waterfield, and David. Mrs. Harmer died July 19, 1836, and on February 13, 1828, Mr. Harmer married for his second wife Susannah Funk, by whom he had four children: James, Mary, deceased; Samuel B., deceased; and John Samuel Harmer, the elder, died in 1861, at the age of fifty-nine years.

David Harmer attended the schools of his township, and when he reached the proper age indentured himself to learn the trade of carriage builder with his brother at Three Tuns, Montgomery county. After serving a three years' apprenticeship, he spent an additional year at Fox Chase, this county. Succeeding this, he removed to Jenkintown and occupied a farm of twenty-seven acres in conjunction with the farm of James Kent, upon the latter of which now stands the Beechwood hotel. He farmed here for a period of three years and then returned to his trade at Weldon, this county. He conducted the business at Weldon from 1861 to 1884, upon which latter date he removed to Jenkintown and purchased the factory of Joseph A. Shoemaker, where he has since continued as the leading builder of that section of the country. In his earlier days he was an active Republican and served for two terms as justice of the peace. Like his father before him, he was formerly a strong adherent of the Methodist church, with which denomination he was connected for a period of twenty-seven years. Since his removal to Jenkintown, he joined the Grace Presbyterian church, of which he is now an elder. He married Susan E. Tustin in 1855, by whom he has had four children: George, Hattie, Mary and Samuel. The three latter children are deceased.

WILLIAM MARTIN, a veteran Union soldier, and a resident of Upper Merion township, is a son of Richard and Hannah (Moore) Martin, and was born in the city of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, March 12, 1839. His paternal grandfather, Samuel Martin, was a resident of the great manufacturing city of Manchester, where he was a silk hand loom weaver. His son, Richard Martin, the eldest of nine brothers, was a resident of Bolton, in Yorkshire, until 1825, when he came to America, and after spending some time in the vicinity of Philadelphia, removed to Upper Merion township. He there operated the woolen mill and for several years manufactured cotton and woolen goods. He was a Republican in politics, and when the fateful struggle came for mastery between the northern and southern sections of this great nation, no man gave more generously of his time and means to the Union cause than Richard Martin. He lived to see the government successful and disunion a dream of the past, and died April, 1871, when lacking but a twelve months of being an octogenarian. He was a master Mason, being initiated, passed, and raised in York lodge, England. He married Hannah Moore, who was a daughter of Thomas Moore, and passed away in December, 1879, aged seventy-three years. They had nine children: Samuel, Henry, Richard, William, Jane, James, Sarah, George and Han-

nah. Two of the sons served as soldiers in the Union army, and one of the daughters, Sarah, married William Siter, and Hannah became the wife of Charles Crerve.

At twelve months of age, William Martin was brought by his parents to Upper Merion township, where he grew to manhood and received an ordinary English education. He learned the trade of carpenter, at which he worked steadily until the commencement of the late Civil war. He enlisted on August 19, 1861, in company E, eleventh Pennsylvania cavalry, and served until August, 1864, when he was honorably discharged from the Federal service at Jones' Landing. His principal service was in the Army of the James, and while never wounded and always escaping capture, yet he participated in the battle of Franklin, the defence of Suffolk, the siege of Petersburg and Richmond, battle at South Anna Bridge, and in numerous cavalry skirmishes. Returning home he again engaged at carpentering to which he has added building and contracting. He resides near King of Prussia. He is and always has been a Republican in political affairs. He is a member of Owen Jones Post No. 591, Grand Army of the Republic, at Bryn Mawr.

On June 13, 1867, William Martin was united in marriage with Josephine Carr, a daughter of James Carr, of Chester county. Their union has been blessed with two children, a son and a daughter: Hannah M. and Howard S.

PHILIP S. GARRETT, now a resident of Ardmore, is the eldest son and child of William and Hannah (Super) Garrett, and was born in Upper Darby township, Delaware county, Pennsylvania, January 25, 1834. His paternal grandfather, William Garrett, Sr., was of English Quaker stock and spent his life in Delaware county as a farmer. He married, and his son William Garrett was born in 1808. William Garrett learned the trades of carpenter and cabinet maker, which he followed until the death of his father, when he came into possession of the home farm. Some years later he sold the farm and removed to Upper Darby township, in his native county, and resided there until his death, which occurred in 1868. After disposing of the home farm he dropped cabinet making and gave his time to carpentering and farming. He was a Quaker or Friend in religious belief and a Whig and Republican successively in political opinion. He served as a member of the Emergency militia company during Lee's invasion of Pennsylvania, and was near Gettysburg, when that great battle was in progress. In 1833 he married Hannah Super, and their family consisted of five children: Philip S., Mary A., William H., Rachel S., and John K.

Philip S. Garrett was reared in Delaware county, until he was nine years of age, and then went to George Hill, Philadelphia, where he grew to manhood. He attended the common schools and was employed on a farm and in delivering milk on a city route until 1851. In that year he came to Lower Merion township, where he learned the trade of carpenter which he has followed ever since.

In October, 1856, Philip S. Garrett wedded Elizabeth McAfee. To their union have been born five children: Lydia C., William Ellsworth (deceased), Louis M., Mary A. (deceased), and M. Edith.

Politically Mr. Garrett has always been a strong Democrat, but is no office seeker, al-

though an active worker at the polls, and serving frequently as a delegate to county and State conventions of his party. He is a past grand of Banyan Tree Lodge, No. 378, Independent Order of Odd Fellows; and a member of Cassia Lodge, No. 273, Free and Accepted Masons. Mr. Garrett is a good workman and reliable citizen, and has served for some time as the vice-president and a director of the Lower Merion Building and Loan association.

PETER A. BLANCHETTE, a resident of Gulf Mills, and a veteran Union soldier of the late Civil war, is a son of John and Lucy (Larver) Blanchette, and was born February 14, 1849, in the old and historic city of Quebec, in the Dominion of Canada. John Blanchette was of French descent and spent his life in Quebec, which was the city of his birth. He owned a large farm, was a skilled mechanic and a good surveyor, and died in 1875 when in the seventieth year of his age. He was an active and prominent man in his community, and married Lucy Larver, a resident of his native country, and reared a family of twelve children. Mr. Blanchette was a member of the Catholic church, and in Canadian politics warmly supported the Liberal party.

Peter A. Blanchette was partly reared and educated in his native city, and at thirteen years of age came to Vermont, which he soon left to go to Marlboro, Massachusetts, where he began to learn the trade of shoemaker. The Civil war, then at its height, drew the attention of every one, the young as well as the old, and although but fifteen years of age he enlisted in 1864 in company H, fourth New Jersey volunteers, and served until the close of the war, being honorably discharged in 1865. He took part in several battles and numerous skirmishes, and by an accident was severely injured, by which he was unable to perform any labor for about a year after being discharged. His name is inscribed on a roll of military honor issued by Governor Marcus L. Ward, of New Jersey. After the war Mr. Blanchette returned to Massachusetts, and shortly afterwards went to Knoxville, Tennessee, where he completed learning the trade of shoemaker. He was a resident of Nashville for nearly three years and then came to Philadelphia, where he followed shoemaking for five years. During the Centennial year he opened a restaurant at No. 136, North Sixth street, which he is still running successfully. In 1893 Mr. Blanchette purchased the George Nugent property at Gulf Mills, and has resided there ever since, although still doing business in Philadelphia. He is a member of Perkin Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons; Paradise Lodge, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and the Phil Kearney Brigade, a military order.

In 1871 Mr. Blanchette married Mary Love. To their union have been born three children two sons and a daughter: Emma, Peter A., jr. and Louis.

JONATHAN M. SHAINLINE, of near Abrams, a substantial farmer and business man, is a son of George W. and Hannah (Moore) Shainline, and was born in Upper Merion township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, in 1829 His paternal grandfather, Jacob Shainline, was an influential man in Upper Merion township, who served as a director of the Norris-

town Bridge company, in which he held considerable stock. He was a Whig, and when Washington was at Valley Forge, he furnished the American troops with quite an amount of provisions. He was a member and vestryman of the Episcopal church and died in 1833. His son, George W. Shainline, who was reared on the farm and obtained a fair education, went at thirty-three years of age to Norristown, and built the first steam mill of that place, which he operated for eleven years. He then returned to farming in his native township, where he died in 1874. He was an Episcopalian, and a Whig and Republican and served for twelve years as supervisor of highways. He married Hannah Moore. They had four children, three sons and a daughter: Rebecca J., Richard M., Jonathan M., and Jacob.

Jonathan M. Shainline grew to manhood in his native township, attended the ordinary schools of his neighborhood and Treemount seminary when under Rev. Samuel Aaron, and at eighteen years of age went to Reading, Berks county, where he served a three years' apprenticeship in the machine shops of that place. At the close of his apprenticeship, he went to the celebrated Baldwin Locomotive works, of Philadelphia, in which he worked as a machinist for seven years. He then went to a farm which he cultivated for nine years, and at the end of that time purchased his present farm of good, arable land in Upper Merion township, and within a short distance of Abrams. Mr. Shainline has assiduously devoted himself to the upbuilding of his farm, and has been successful in all of those agricultural pursuits in which he has ever been engaged. He is an independent Republican and supports only those political measures that in his estimation are calculated for the best interests of the State and nation. He was auditor for three years of his township, and also served as assistant assessor for one term. He is a member of Lodge No. 100, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, of Philadelphia.

In 1851 Mr. Shainline wedded Jane B. Graff. Their union has been blessed with one child, a son, George W.

DANIEL D. DRESLIN, a self-made business man of Bridgeport, is a son of George and Margaret (McGrath) Dreslin, and was born at Bridgeport, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, March 10, 1855. His paternal grandfather, George Dreslin, was a native of County Tipperary, Ireland, where he was engaged in agricultural pursuits. He was a member of the Catholic church, and reared a family of three children: George, Margaret and Mary. George Dreslin, father, was born in the same county as his father, and in 1849 emigrated to America and settled in New York city. There he resided until 1853, when he came to Norristown. He was an iron worker by trade and helped to build the Montgomery court house in 1855. He continued as a worker in the iron business until 1860, when he enlisted in company C, of a Pennsylvania regiment. He served as a fireman on the *Cumberland* in the great engagement with the *Merrimac* at Fortress Monroe, and for one year after he was engaged on the *Cossack*. At the close of the war he was honorably discharged and returned to Norristown, where he worked in the iron mills until 1871. He afterward removed to Hampton, Virginia, where he is still living, aged seventy years. Politically he was a Republican, and married Margaret McGrath,

who died January 11, 1871, at the age of thirty-five years. This union was blessed with ten children, among whom were: George, deceased; Daniel D., John, George (2nd), Mary Bell, Thomas (deceased), Catharine (deceased).

Daniel D. Dreslin received his education under a private tutor, Dr. Bradley, of Norristown, and in 1869 entered Jamison's cotton mill. Eight years later he learned the trade of bricklayer, serving an apprenticeship of three years. At the end of this time he started in business with James A. Murray under the firm name of Dreslin & Murray, and for one year they were engaged in contracting and building. Since then he has operated the business himself and has erected a large number of fine buildings among which are the Catholic church and school buildings, the public school building of Bridgeport, the American Surgical works and the Thomas tack works. He carries on an extensive and successful business.

On August 1, 1889, Mr. Dreslin married Maggie Dillion, the only daughter of Thomas Dillion, of Bridgeport. They have a family of three children: Annie A., George T., and Edward.

Mr. Breslin is a supporter of the Democratic party, and a member of the Catholic church, and for five years was a member of the National Guard of Pennsylvania, company H, 16th regiment, commanded by Captain Samuel J. Long. Mr. Dreslin is president of the Pioneer Lawn Mower company, and a director of the Fame Building and Loan association. He has done his share toward advancing the business interests of his borough. Starting in life with but little means, he went right ahead and has succeeded in acquiring a comfortable competency.

CHARLES MATHER is a son of John and Martha (Potts) Mather, and a well known resident of Jenkintown, this county. He was born in Cheltenham township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, on March 19, 1823. This locality has been the seat of his residence and the scene of his activity down to the present time. His education was acquired at the school of the Society of Friends in his immediate neighborhood. After his school days were ended, which were very limited, he remained on the farm with his father until the latter retired from active work, after which he joined his brother, with whom he lived until he reached his majority. About this time he gravitated to Rochester, N. Y., where he entered the printing office of the *Daily Advertiser* and maintained his connection with it two years. At the expiration of this time he gave up the trade of printing, returned to Philadelphia, and purchased a spice mill. Later he engaged in the manufacture of printer's ink, in Philadelphia, in which business he remained some four or five years, afterward connecting himself with the V. B. Palmer Advertising agency, of the same city. Some time later he again returned to Jenkintown, and finally took up the real estate and conveyancing business, which he has ever since continued. From 1869 to 1878, he served as justice of the peace, but in the latter year resigned to qualify for the position of notary public of the First National bank of Jenkintown, which place he now holds. At present he is also secretary of the Union Mutual Fire Insurance company of Jenkintown, secretary of the Storm Insurance company, the Live Stock Insurance company, the Abington Library society, and the Union Company for the Recovery of Stolen Horses, all of Jenkintown, and a

director of the Jenkintown Building and Loan Association. Fraternally, Mr. Mather is a member of Friendship Lodge No. 400, F. and A. M., of Jenkintown, of which he was an organizer, and at the time senior warden. He married Alice O. Warner, a descendant of one of the oldest families in the State, in 1846, by whom he had three children: Mary, Charles and William.

The Warner family came into Pennsylvania about twenty-five years prior to Penn, and settled in Mantua village, now the present site of West Philadelphia.

The ancestors of Charles Mather came from England contemporaneously with William Penn. The original founder of the family in Pennsylvania was one, Joseph Mather, who first landed in Maryland, and subsequently settled in what is now Cheltenham township, and married a Miss Russell, who had inherited three hundred acres of land from her father. Ogontz seminary, formerly the estate of Jay Cooke, is now located on this tract.

His son Richard succeeded to the estate by purchase from his mother. Richard had eight children: Joseph, Bartholomew, Benjamin, Richard, Isaac, Elizabeth, Hannah, and Sarah. Isaac was the grandfather of the subject of this sketch, lived in Whitemarsh township, was a millwright by trade and built the old mill in 1769 on the place, near Jenkintown, now owned and occupied by Hon. John Wanamaker, a part of the old family tract. He spent his latter days in Cheltenham, and left a family of children.

He was twice married; first to Mary Morris, and in the second instance to Rebecca Austin, widow of Richard Austin. His son, John Mather, father of Charles, lived near Jenkintown, where he pursued the avocation of farmer until 1841, when he retired and afterward resided in Jenkintown. He married Martha Potts, daughter of Zebulon Potts, the first sheriff of Montgomery county. To this alliance ten children were born, namely: Isaac, Edward, John, Martha, Daniel, Rebecca, Elizabeth, Charles, Jane and Ann, of which seven are still living.

T. R. HARTZELL, postmaster and general merchant of Colmar, Montgomery county, is a young man, who has rapidly won his way to solid financial standing and prominence in the commercial circles of his locality. He has been at the head of a large general store for ten years and has made of it a great success, and by reason of his enterprise and progressiveness and reputation for honesty and integrity commands the respect and confidence of the general public. He was born on March 11, 1860, and is the son of Henry and Mary (Raudenberg) Hartzell. He is of American parentage and ancestry, though his forefathers originally came from Germany. His grandfather, Henry Hartzell, was a very prominent Democratic politician in his day; in fact was a leader in his neighborhood and commanded a great deal of influence.

Henry Hartzell was given a common school education. He then took to farming and followed that avocation all his life. He was very active in Democratic politics, and for many years served as a director on the local school board. He was also elected to one term as county commissioner and filled that very important office with honor and credit. He was a man very well informed on legal matters and settled up many es-

tates. An active member of the Reformed church, Mr. Hartzell served that congregation many years as deacon, trustee and elder, and was beloved by all who knew him. He was married to Mary Raudenberg, and their union was productive of a family of seven children: Hiram; Irwin; Revier, deceased; T. R.; Harriett; Harry; and Anna.

T. R. Hartzell attended the common schools of his native town and then took a two years' course at Sellersville academy. On leaving school he secured a position in J. E. Frick's general store at Hilltown as clerk and remained there for three years. He then went into the mercantile business on his own account with his brother as partner in Bucks county, but only remained there one year. At the expiration of that year this partnership was dissolved and Mr. Hartzell returned to Montgomery county and located in Colmar. This was in 1885, and he started in the general store business and has continued in it ever since, yearly increasing his volume of trade and adding to his standing in the financial world. He carries a large and varied stock of not less than $4,500 in value, and employs a number of clerks.

In politics a Democrat, he is very active and influential and as a reward for services during recent campaigns he was appointed postmaster of Colmar by President Cleveland.

Mr. Hartzell and Sarah, daughter of John G. Frick, his old employer, were married, and this union has been blessed by four children.

The family belongs to the Reformed church of Colmar, and Mr. Hartzell takes a lively interest in church work as well as all public movements that are calculated to advance the town in which he lives.

WILLIAM H. BUSKIRK, a successful carriage manufacturer and dealer at Jenkintown, is a son of Philip and Mary E. (Watton) Buskirk, and was born at Willow Grove, this county, January 23, 1864. The Buskirks are of German origin, as the authority of the name would indicate. Jacob L. Buskirk, grandfather of William H., came from Germany at an early period and landed at Philadelphia, but soon settled near edge Hill, this county. He was a carpenter by trade and a Democrat in politics.

Philip Buskirk, father of the subject, was born at Willow Grove and resided in that vicinity all his life. He was a farmer by occupation and a Democrat in political make up, and took an active interest in political matters, having served two terms as supervisor and the same length of time as constable of Abington township. He is an active member of the Knights of the Golden Eagle. He married Mary Walton, and to this union were born five children: William H., Howard W., Rachel, wife of Howard Ervin; George Walton, Samuel W. Mr. Buskirk received his education in the district schools of Abington township, and after leaving school, learned the carriage building trade, and after working three years for W. J. Dillsworth at Jenkintown, bought out his employer, and in partnership with Mr. Donnell, trading under the name of Donnell & Buskirk, continued the business for about five years, up to 1891. At this time, Mr. Buskirk bought his partner's interest and down to the present time has conducted the business alone.

Mr. Buskirk is an active Democrat, having served as judge of the election and as inspector a couple of terms. Religiously he is a member of the Episcopalian church. He is a member of Peace and Love Lodge

No. 337, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, at Jenkintown, and a past officer of Abington Encampment No. 189. He is a member of Jenkintown Lodge No. 476, Knights of Pythias, and grand chancellor of the lower district of Montgomery county; Samaritan Castle No. 214, Knights of the Golden Eagle; Jenkintown Lodge No. 404, Junior Order of United American Mechanics. He is also a member of Independent Fire company, and at one time served as foreman.

In 1890 Mr. Buskirk was united in marriage with Crissie D. Moyer; they have one child, Albert J.

EDWIN H. FAUST, of Ambler, is a member of the firm of A. D. Faust Sons, now operating extensive tanneries in Montgomery and Huntingdon counties. He is a son of Alvin D. and Catherine (Kuhns) Faust, and was born December 20, 1853, in Upper Dublin township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania. He was reared in his native township and received his education in the common schools and Muhlenburg college at Allentown, this State. He supplemented his college course with a commercial term at Bryant and Stratton's Business college at Philadelphia, and then assisted his father in the tanning business until the death of the latter in 1886, when he and his four brothers formed a partnership and have run ever since their father's two extensive tanneries, the one near Ambler, and the other at Mt. Union, in Huntingdon county. They do business under the firm name of A. D. Faust Sons, in Montgomery county, and operate as Faust Brothers at Mt. Union, where their plant is under the personal supervision of Richard J. Faust, the eldest brother.

On November 11, 1876, Edwin H. Faust wedded Eliza A. Rauch. Their union has been blessed with two children, a son and a daughter: William N.; and Blanche E.

In politics Mr. Faust is a Democrat. He is an active member of the borough council, and is a school director and the treasurer of the Ambler school board. Mr. Faust is an active business man, and has been a member of the Lutheran church, of which he has served as a trustee for several years. He is a member of Ft. Washington Lodge No. 308, Free and Accepted Masons; and Ft. Washington chapter, Royal Arch Masons.

The Faust family is of German lineage and in the early part of the present century were resident in Lehigh county, where John Faust (grandfather) was born and reared. John Faust, who died in 1841, was a member of the German Reformed church and married Sarah Moyer, by whom he had three children: Alvin D.; Owen W.; and Matilda, wife of H. Barringer. Alvin D. Faust was born in 1827, in Lehigh county, and after receiving an ordinary English education learned the trade of tanner which opened to him his life vocation in the business world. He came in early life to Montgomery county, but soon returned home where he remained until 1850. In that year he purchased the tannery of Joseph Rudder, with whom he had worked on his first visit to this country. This tannery is one of the oldest in the county and was formerly known as Rose Valley tannery, and was successfully operated by Mr. Faust until his death, which occurred May 10, 1884. In 1873 he purchased an additional tannery at Mt. Union in Huntingdon county, which he improved and put into successful opera-

tion. A very influential and highly respected man, he was a consistent member of Ruff's Lutheran church, and a strong Democrat in politics. He had served for several years as church trustee and school director, and was a member of the Jarrettstown Lodge of Odd Fellows.

He married Catharine Kuhns, and their family consisted of five sons: Richard J.; Edwin H.; Samuel A.; Milton D.; and Alvin B.

WM. C. BLACKBURN, proprietor of the Ambler Hotel, is a son of Alexander and Susannah (Custard) Blackburn, and was born in Lower Salford township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, July 7, 1842. His paternal grandfather came from England and settled in Lower Salford township, when his son, Alexander Blackburn, was but a child Alexander Blackburn was principally reared in Lower Salford township by David Heckler, a farmer, with whom he remained until he attained his majority. He then rented Mr. Heckler's farm and was engaged in farming up to the time of his death, which occurred in 1846, when he was in the thirty-second year of his age.

He was a Whig in politics, and a Mennonite in religion. In the year 1826 Alexander Blackburn married Susanna Custard. To their union were born three children, two sons and a daughter: David; William C.; and Catherine, who married John G. Tyson.

William C. Blackburn was reared in Lower Salford and Towamencin townships, and after attending school in the latter township from eight to sixteen years of age, he learned the trade of blacksmith, which he followed steadily for five years. He then turned his attention to a different line of business—hotel keeping—in which he has been successfully engaged ever since. He opened his first hotel, the Sorrell house, at Fourth and Vine streets, Philadelphia, where he remained for one year. He then purchased the Centre Square hotel, and five years later disposed of his hotel property there to become proprietor of the Hartranft house, Norristown, which he conducted for five years. At the end of that time he went to North Wales and bought a hotel, which he disposed of a year later to remove to Ambler, where he purchased the Ambler House and has conducted it since the spring of 1893. Mr. Blackburn is well fitted for his special line of business by many years of successful experience in providing for the wants and accommodation of the traveling public. He is a Republican in politics and always supports the principles and measures of his party.

In 1861 Mr. Blackburn was united in marriage with Catherine Hantzberger Their union has been blessed with one child, a son, named Irwin H.

CAPTAIN SAMUEL J. LONG, has been successfully engaged in business for a number of years at Norristown, was born in that borough May 14, 1846, and is a son of Joseph and Jane (Cascaden) Long. Having a desire to pursue a business similar to that of his father, Samuel J. Long became engaged in the manufacture of soap and tallow at an early age. Subsequently he began dealing in hides, tallow and ground bone, and has ever since been so employed. Industrious in his pursuits, he has been

very successful and at present commands an extensive trade. In 1886 he rebuilt the two story brick establishment which he now occupies and increased its size to sixty feet front and seventy feet in depth. He employs a number of men in his business, and manufactures the "tankage" fertilizer, which he originated. This substance has proved itself very valuable as a fertilizer.

Mr. Long united in marriage with Sallie M. March. On April, 1889, Mrs. Long passed away at the age of thirty-six years, leaving two children: Joseph M., and Lenore D.

Mr. Long is a Democrat in politics. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, belonging to Charity Lodge No. 190; Norristown Chapter No. 190; and Hutchinson Commandery No. 32. He is also a member of the American Order of United Workmen. He enlisted, in 1870, in company H, 16th regiment, National Guards of Pennsylvania, and was afterwards promoted to corporal, sergeant, first lieutenant, and finally to captain. He was engaged in the military service of the State for seven years, from 1870 to 1877.

The Longs are of Irish lineage and Joseph Long, father, was a native of Ireland, from which country he came to America in 1840. He located at Norristown. He was an ardent Democrat, a member of the Methodist Evangelical church, and died at the age of fifty-seven years. He married Jane Cascaden and reared a family of three children: Samuel, Ella J., and one which died in infancy.

DAVID W. SHEARER, a successful farmer and business man of Upper Merion township, is a son of George and Mary (Rex) Shearer, and was born in Whitpain township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, in 1830. His paternal grandfather, Captain John Shearer, was a lime burner and life long resident of near Flourtown. He was in the Revolutionary war first as a teamster and later as a captain of a company in a regiment of the Pennsylvania line. He was a Federalist in politics and his son, George Shearer, died in 1877. George Shearer was a farmer by occupation, and spent his life in Plymouth and Whitpain townships, being supervisor of highways for four years in the former of these townships. He was a Democrat, and an active member of the Presbyterian church, and served as a director of the Benevolent Order then at Broad Axe, but now at Fort Washington. In 1812 he wedded Mary Rex, who passed away in 1860. Their family consisted of eight children: William; Elizabeth, wife of Mark Jones; Harriet; Charles; Sarah; Hannah, wife of C. Greene; David W.; and Susan, who wedded Stephen Shard. Mr. Shearer after his wife's death wedded, in 1862, Barbara Wingate, by whom he had one child named George.

David W. Shearer spent his boyhood years in Whitpain and Plymouth townships, and at fourteen years of age commenced to do for himself. He worked as a farm laborer successively in Norriton, Whitemarsh, and Whitpain townships, and obtained during this time but an ordinary education. After attaining his majority he went into the reaping and threshing business and ran reapers and threshers in the central part of the county, cutting and threshing grain for a certain price per acre. Quitting that line of business, he rented a farm in Worcester township, which he left two years later to rent S. K. Stout's

farm in Plymouth township, on which he remained five years. He then rented and farmed successively the John Fern, the James Van Roden, the P. Smith, and the Charles Roberts' farms, and left the last named farm to remove to Upper Merion township, where he immediately purchased his present farm. He has been very successful as a farmer, and resides near Bridgeport.

He is independent in political affairs, and, yielding allegiance to no party, supports men and measures as he thinks best for the public welfare. He served as supervisor of highways for some time while residing in Plymouth township, but has never been desirous of holding office.

In 1860, Mr. Shearer was united in marriage with Hannah Roberts, a daughter of Charles Roberts. They have two children: Edward; and Ella, wife of George Streeper.

ISAAC MULLEN, a general merchant and the present postmaster at Gulf Mills, is a son of Robert and Letitia (Barnwall) Mullen, and was born in the city of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, April 16, 1833. Robert Mullen, whose father came from Ireland, was born and reared in Philadelphia and learned weaving. He came some years later to Gulf Mills, where he was foreman of the weaving department of McFarland's mills for a long period of time. He was a Democrat, and a member of the American Protestant association, and married Letitia Barnwall. They reared a family of three children: Isaac, Henry (deceased), and Alfred.

Isaac Mullen was brought when but a child, by his parents, from Philadelphia to Gulf Mills, and received his education in the common schools. He commenced life for himself as a clerk in a store at Mechanicsville, where he remained until 1861, in which year he became book-keeper in a Philadelphia mercantile establishment. He held that position for ten years and at the expiration of that time, returned to Gulf Mills, where he engaged in his present general mercantile business His establishment is well stocked with every thing required in a first-class store outside of a city. He enjoys a good trade and has a large patronage.

Later, after his returning to Gulf Mills, he was appointed in 1873, as postmaster, and has held that position continuously ever since. He is a Republican in political opinion. He has served as a member of the school board for ten years, and has held the office of township auditor for four years. He is a member of Potter Lodge No. 441, Free and Accepted Masons.

In 1862 Mr. Mullen was united in marriage with Maggie W. Whistler. To their union have been born four children, one son and three daughters: Clara, Gertrude (Mrs. Samuel Kinkler), Susie and Walter.

Isaac Mullen has closely followed, and with success, his chosen line of business, to which he has largely devoted his time and attention, yet when Lee invaded Pennsylvania in 1863, he dropped everything and joined the Union forces. He enlisted in a company of Pennsylvania militia and participated in the battle of Gettysburg, where he was taken prisoner by the Confederates, but paroled on the battle-field. He was sent to West Chester, where he remained until he was exchanged and honorably discharged from the Federal service.

RICHARD HALLOWELL, past State president of the Patriotic Order Sons of America of the jurisdiction of Pennsylvania, is a son of Lieutenant Charles and Mary (Stewart) Hallowell, and was born near Swedesburg, in Upper Merion township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, September 5, 1849. The Hallowell family is of English-Quaker ancestry, and came from England to southeastern Pennsylvania prior to the year 1700. Nathan Hallowell, the grandfather of Richard H. Hallowell, was reared in the religious faith of his American ancestors and was a consistent member of the Society of Friends. He was a farmer by occupation and a Whig and Republican in politics, and resided in close proximity to the old Swedes' church, near Swedesburg. His son, Lieutenant Charles Hallowell, was born in Upper Merion township, where he obtained a good common English education. He then learned the trade of millwright, which he followed for a life vocation. He worked at different places throughout the county, and was employed for some time in a furnace. He was a Whig and Republican politically, and died in 1887, aged seventy-one years. He served as an officer in the old militia organization of the State and was elected lieutenant of the Montgomery troop of cavalry that helped to quell the Kensington riot at Philadelphia in 1847. He married in 1844, Mary Stewart. To their union were born seven children, four sons and three daughters: Eugene, Richard, Nathan, Annie, Stewart, Mrs. Eliza Templin, and Mary.

Richard H. Hallowell was reared in Upper Merion, excepting one year (1851) when his parents resided in Plymouth township. He attended school at Swedeland, and then learned the trade of carpenter, which he has followed ever since in connection with contracting and building. He has served as foreman on the erection of several large buildings, superintended the remodeling of Washington's headquarters at Valley Forge in 1887, and was superintendent in 1894 of the construction of the Soldiers' Orphan school building in Franklin county. Mr. Hallowell is a staunch Republican, has been a member of the county committee, and is serving on his third year as auditor of his township. He is an active member and vestryman of the old Swedes' Episcopal church, and has been a member for some years of Washington camp, Patriotic Order Sons of America, in which organization he served as State president in 1887–88. Mr. Hallowell is a skilled workman, a competent builder, and a successful contractor. He is active, energetic and patriotic.

Mr. Hallowell wedded Jennie Eakins, a daughter of Augustus Eakins, of Philadelphia. Their union has been blessed with one child, a son named Frank.

JOHN S. BUCHANON, a public spirited citizen and a successful real estate dealer of Ambler, is the eldest son of John and Jane (McClay) Buchanon, and was born at Rousville, Venango county, Pennsylvania, March 4, 1860. The Buchanon family is of Scotch-Irish descent, and the grandfather of subject was a resident of Crawford and Venango counties, and died in 1879, at the age of eighty-seven years. He was a Presbyterian and a Republican, and his son John Buchanon was the father of the subject of this sketch. John Buchanon was reared near Titusville, this state, and removed to the vicinity of Oil City, where he

purchased a farm which he first leased and afterwards sold to the oil firm of Rouse, Mitchell and Co. Some time later he bought a farm near Titusville, which he also sold in 1864 to come to Montgomery county, where he purchased a farm near Ambler. He had made preparations to improve his third and last farm, but was cut down suddenly by the hand of death, in 1865, at the early age of thirty-one years. He was one of the first to dip oil from the waters of Oil creek, and owned considerable property at the time of his death. He was a quiet and reserved man, but active and energetic in whatever he undertook. In 1860 he married Jane McClay. They had two children: John S. and Joseph.

John S. Buchanon was brought at four years of age to Upper Dublin township by his parents, and received his education in the public schools of that township, which he supplemented by a full course in Pierce and Crittenden's Business college. Upon completing his commercial course he returned home and worked upon the farm until 1884. In that year he married and removed to Ambler, where he bought his present property on Butler avenue, from Henry Jones. Soon after removing to Ambler he was elected teller in the First National bank of that place and served in that capacity up to 1889, when he embarked in his present real estate business. Mr. Buchanon is a Republican politically. He has served as a member of the borough council ever since its organization in 1886, and was its president for several terms. He has served as a notary public since 1889, in which year he was appointed by Governor Beaver. Mr. Buchanon was largely instrumental in securing the establishment of the borough and has been active in its local affairs ever since. He is a stockholder in the First National bank, and has been president and secretary of the Ambler Real Estate Improvement company ever since its organization. He is a member of Ambler Lodge No. 1045, Independent Order of Odd Fellows; and Fort Washington Lodge, No. 308, Free and Accepted Masons. He is a member and trustee of the First Presbyterian church, towards the erection of whose present edifice, in 1892, he both worked and contributed. Ever alive to the progress of his borough he has done his full share in its upbuilding and towards its present prosperity.

On September 10, 1884, John S. Buchanon was united marriage with Ellen B. Huff. Their union has been blessed with three children, two sons and a daughter: Joseph H.; Charles and Helen.

MORRIS A. GANGAWER, the genial proprietor of the Colonial hotel, and railroad agent at North Wales, is a son of Edwin G. and Mary (Keassler) Gangawer, and was born in Saucon township, Lehigh county, Pennsylvania, July 17, 1864. The Gangawer family is of German descent, and was among the earliest settlers at Allentown, this State, and Solomon Gangawer, grandfather, passed the latter part of his life at that place. He was a farmer and limeburner of Northampton county. He was one of a family of thirteen children and one of three sets of twins born to his parents. He was a Democrat, and a member of the Reformed church and married Elizabeth Gangawer, a member of a branch of the family that settled at Tipton, Ohio. They had nine children: Filmore, Edwin G., Moses, Augustine, Sevilla, Margaret, Emma, Cecilia, and a child that died in infancy.

Edwin G. Gangawer, father, was born, reared and received his education in his native county, and then went to Saucon township, in Lehigh county, where he followed farming and lime burning for thirty-three years.

In politics he was an ardent Democrat and in religion a Reformed churchman. He passed away on June 12, 1892, at fifty-eight years of age. He married Mary Keassler in 1855, and their children were: Eugene, Harvey, William and Morris A., whose name heads this sketch.

Morris A. Gangawer was reared in his native county and after receiving his education in the public schools, spent a short time in the railroad telegraph office at Long Siding, now Saucon. He then worked on the farm for a few months and soon thereafter completed his course as a telegraph operator at Hillside.

Several years after this Mr. Gangawer became assistant operator at Hellertown, then was transferred as night operator to Long Siding, where he remained for five years. He then left Long Siding and served successively as operator at Hellertown and Skellerman, New York. He left the last named place in 1889 and came to North Wales, where he has been ticket and freight agent of the Pennsylvania railroad company ever since.

On October 6, 1886, Mr. Gangawer married Alice Witmer, and to their union have been born two children: Warren and Lloyd, who both died in infancy.

Mr. Gangawer is a Democrat, and a member of the Reformed church. He is a good business man, and takes interest in whatever will benefit North Wales or add to its material prosperity, being a member of the Home Building and Loan association. He is a member of the Pennsylvania Railroad Relief association, the Knights of the Golden Eagle, and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

REMANDUS SCHEETZ, now engaged in the wholesale grocery business at Norristown, was born in Bucks county, Pennsylvania, April 28, 1847, and is a son of Francis and Catharine (Fortz) Scheetz. His paternal grandfather was a native of Germany and a man of education. He came to this country when a young man, and first settled at Germantown, in Philadelphia county, where he followed teaching for some time. He afterwards removed to Bucks county, where he continued teaching for several years and resided until his death. He married and reared a family of eight sons and one daughter: William; Francis; Jacob; Reuben; Charles; Edwin; Samuel; Albert and Eliza, who married Aaron Fulmer, of Bucks county, and is now deceased. Francis Scheetz, the father of the subject of this sketch, was born in Bucks county, January 12, 1814. He was a tailor by trade, but at an early age in life turned his attention to the general mercantile business and finally engaged in agricultural pursuits, which he followed until his death. His brother Reuben was prothonotary of Bucks county, and another brother, Samuel, served for many years as a justice of the peace in Richhill township, Bucks county, and was a director of the Quakertown bank. Francis Scheetz was a Democrat in politics, and a member of the German Baptist church. He married Catharine Fortz. To their union were born two children; M. F., a merchant of Flourtown; and Remandus, whose name heads this sketch.

Remandus Scheetz was reared on the

farm until the age of six years, when he was brought to Montgomery county, where he grew to manhood and received his education in the public schools. He followed farming until 1868, when he attained his majority and came to Norristown, where he entered the employ of Moore & Ramsey, grocers, of that place. He remained with them for two years, and then in may, 1870, commenced business for himself as a wholesale and retail grocer, also handling queensware. In March, 1894 he turned his attention entirely to the wholesale grocery business in which he is still engaged. His present wholesale grocery house is on the corner of Main and Cherry streets, and is a large structure 25x240 feet in dimensions, conveniently arranged for the transaction of his large and flourishing business. He carries a large, complete and assorted stock of plain and fancy groceries, and handles field and garden seeds, wood and willow ware, and every article of merchandise usually carried by a first-class house.

On February 16, 1886, Mr. Scheetz married Miss Harley, of Fairview, this county. To their union have been born four children, one son and three daughters: Gertrude ; Sara ; Ethel and Francis.

Mr. Scheetz is a Republican in political texture, but gives his time principally to his business affairs.

He is a vigorous, energetic business man and has taken no ordinary interest in the promotion of enterprises for his community's advancement. His grocery house is a substantial and well arranged structure, and has probably no peer, outside the cities of Pittsburg and Philadelphia in the State.

Personally Mr. Scheetz is affable, and a man of strict integrity, whose efforts have met with a large measure of pecuniary success.

PETER FREDERICK ROTHERMEL.

Few painters have had a more interesting life than Peter Frederick Rothermel. He was born on the 8th of July, 1817, in the little village of Nescopek, which took its name from the creek flowing into the Susquehanna river. Here his early boyhood was spent in the usual pursuit of book learning, varied with plenty of healthy boyish sport.

Talent for art early disclosed itself in the usual boyish attempts at drawing, and the painter in his old age owned also to the fascination exercised over his budding genius by the village sign painter as his brush swept back and forth in its record of a truly impressionistic, if primitive, art. One particular signboard, a black horse on a yellow background, fired the boy's youthful ambition, and it was a proud day indeed when he painted a signboard which was placed in front of his father's hotel.

While early circumstances indicated the bent of his talent, the boy had grown to be a man of twenty-three before he turned to serious and progressive study of the technique of art in the drawing school of John Reuben Smith. It was not long before the young painter had absorbed about all that his teacher could give, whereupon he entered upon a period of more advanced study with Bass Otis, the portrait painter, who is also to be credited with the invention of the perspective protractor and the production of the first lithograph made in America.

The ambitious young painter launched out for himself as a portrait painter on Branch street, between Third and Fourth. Here he painted a large number of portraits, among them the Hydes, the Blanchards and Nathan Beach, who, as a surveyor, discovered the Beaver Meadow coal mines

on the Berwick turnpike, near Mauch Chunk.

Afterward he had a studio on Callowhill street in what was then well on toward the outskirts of the city. Not much farther northwestward, where enterprise has now left its trail in rows of handsome houses and well-kept streets was the open country. As he gained in experience the young artist essayed more elaborate figure painting, illustrating Shakespeare, Coleridge and Scott. Colonel Cephas G. Childs brought him his first order for a picture, "the Embarkation of Columbus at Palos."

This picture and the fine "Columbus Before the Queen" started the painter on the road to fame, and the "De Soto's Discovery of the Mississippi" placed him securely before the public. Just about this time Prescott's work on the "Conquest of Mexico" was making a great noise, and its thrilling incidents furnished the painter with congenial material. "Cortez addressing His Troops within Sight of the Valley of Mexico" was bought by the liberal patron of art, Warrington Gillette; "The Surrender of Guatomozin" was painted for Professor Mapes; "Cortez Burning His Fleet" resulted to James Robb, of New Orleans, and the "Launch of the Brigantines" to J. B. H. Latrobe, of Baltimore, the son of the architect of the Capitol.

Mr. Rothermel was closely identified with two important movements in the history of art in Philadelphia, the growth of the Artists' Fund Society and the early development of the schools of the Academy of the Fine Arts. The Artists' Fund Society, of which he was many years an active member was incorporated in 1835 with John Naegle as its first president. Its meetings did much to kindle enthusiasm among the artists, and almost every painter of distinction in Philadelphia was a member.

In those early days of the middle century the present elaborate system of art study was not yet devised. Ambitious students drew and painted in the studio of an artist, there often learning the mechanical processes of grinding colors and stretching canvas, as well as the more complicated principles of the grammar of art. It was before the time of the printed course of instruction. The teaching was conducted rather on the Pestalozzian method (adapted)—"we learn to paint by painting."

Not only in the matter of academic training, but in what are now recognized and accepted facilities for study the painter was thrown pretty much on his own resources. The artists were compelled frequently to pose for each other. This suggested the formation of life classes. Mr. Rothermel was one of a number who met at Joseph Kyle's room at Sixth and Walnut streets. Later on they took advantage of the permission to use a class room of the academy. The artists paid for the models, the academy, besides the room, providing light and fuel.

At this time the academy was on Chestnut street, where it was destroyed by fire in 1845. It was rebuilt in 1847, with closer reference to the needs of the artistic contingency accustomed to draw there. Later on an organized movement, for which Mr. Rothermel worked actively, was inaugurated, and in 1856 the life class of the Academy of the Fine Arts was regularly organized. At the suggestion of Mr. Rothermel a code of regulations was formulated. It is interesting to note among the rules that no conversation was allowed between the model and any member of the class; no smoking, the strictest order was to be maintained, and no one under the age of twenty-

one years was to be allowed to draw from the female model without written permission from his parents or guardian. Such was the origin of the life class in Philadelphia.

Previous to his visit to Europe in 1856, Mr. Rothermel was a director of the Academy of Fine Arts from 1847 to 1855. With James Read Lambdin, who was elected in 1846 and served until 1864, he represented for some time the artistic element in the board. The names of these artists figure prominently on the exhibition committees of these years, and are closely identified with the material and artistic advancement of the institution.

In 1856 Mr. Rothermel resigned from the board of directors to go abroad.

Paris had not yet become the Mecca of art students, nor was there then the usual annual exodus of wielders of the palette and brush, which has come to be an indication of summer as unfailing as the maturity of leaf and flower.

Mr. Rothermel traveled through Europe in regulation tourist fashion, studying the galleries of England, France and the Netherlands and visiting the Dusseldorf School. Gilbert Stuart, Trumbull, the Peales and Sully followed West to study in England, but the kaleidoscope of fashion had turned and many of the painters were at Dusseldorf. Two years were spent in Rome, the summers being passed at one of the charming spots not far distant from the city, where the artists painted the matchless blue Italian skies and hills, some of which landscape studies hang in the dining room of his home at Linfield, near a fine engraving of his picture "Patrick Henry Making His Celebrated Speech in the House of Burgesses."

While abroad Mr. Rothermel received a warm recognition in Franca, Italy and Russia. For the Grand Duchess Helena of Russia he painted "The Virtuoso," a copy of which hangs in his home at Linfield. The picture represents the old connoisseur, grave and intellectual looking, absorbed in his books. The picture is also interesting from the fact that "The Virtuoso" is a portrait of the father of Mrs. Rothermel. While at Rome the picture "St. Agnes" was painted for Count Kusheleff and a "Rubens and Vandyke" for Prince Kotchabey. On his return to Philadelphia in 1859, Mr. Rothermel painted a series of pictures illustrating the events in the life of Paul. Of these the original study of the large picture, "Paul Before Agrippa," was presented to the Academy of the Fine Arts by James L. Claghorn in 1878; "Paul at Ephesus" was presented to the same institution by Mrs. Matthew Baird in 1887; the Academy also owns the "Embarkation of Columbus at Palos," given by Joseph Dugan in 1844. "Shylock and Portia in the Judgment Scene" was sold to the Art Union of New York; "Cromwell Ordering Hitch Out of the Pulpit" was painted for the Art Union of Cincinnati; "Murray's Defense" was purchased by the Art Union of New York.

The picture of "King Lear and Cordelia" may be seen in Memorial Hall. "The Massacre of the Sicilian Vespers," depicting the outburst of the massacre just at the moment of the insult to the bride, was painted for Anthony J. Drexel, and the large picture of "King Lear, Gloucester and Edgar" is the property of Mrs. Joseph Harrison.

"The Martyrs in the Coliseum," among the best known and most popular of the painter's pictures, was loaned to the Art Club at the time of the reception tendered him March 19, 1890, and still remains there, together with "The Bacchantes," a

gift from the artist to the club, and "The Judgment of Solomon," presented by C. Stuart Patterson, Theodore Cuyler Patterson, Miss Parterson, and Mrs. Sims.

But it is the "Battle of Gettysburg," which hung for many years in Memorial Hall, Fairmount Park, until its removal last December to the new State Library at Harrisburg, which has shed the brightest lustre of fame over the name of Peter Frederick Rothermel.

"The Battle of Gettysburg" was painted on commission from the Legislature of Pennsylvania and was originally intended for the library at Harrisburg, but when found too large for suitable exhibition there was deposited in the large gallery at Memorial Hall, where it became familiar to thousands of sight-seers. It is one of the largest American pictures ever painted, and a year and a half was consumed in its completion, the painter receiving $25,000 for his work. From the first the picture aroused an absorbing public interest. Painted while the scorching wounds of Gettysburg were as yet unsoothed by the healing touch of time, the picture stirred the heartstrings of the people as no American picture may be said to have done before or since.

The "Battle of Gettysburg" was painted in the building on the northeast corner of Fifteenth and Market streets. Joseph Harrison, one of the well-known older art patrons of Philadelphia, gave the use of several rooms. Numbers of people crowded around the artist as he sat at work, and soldiers' mothers, soldiers, widows and orphans, and the boys in blue themselves, wept before the pictured struggles which were living realities to them.

Many of the portraits in the picture are actual likenesses. General Meade sat personally to the artist, and there was no difficulty in getting soldiers for models. They were more than eager. When completed the picture was formally exhibited at the Academy of Music. General Sherman was there and one of the most valued criticisms long remembered by the old artist were the words of the stern old hero of the march to the sea: "I wish that my battles could be painted so!"

The "Battle of Gettysburg" was formally exhibited at Tenth and Chestnut streets in 1871 in a hall erected for that purpose. It was about Christmas and thousands of people went to see it. It was next sent to Boston, after which it was exhibited in Chicago. While there the great Chicago fire broke out. A saving hand cut the picture from its frame and so preserved it to American art. The picture was afterward exhibited in Pittsburg and finally brought back to Philadelphia and placed in a building erected in the Park near the Green street entrance. At the time of the Centennial it was removed to Memorial hall, from which it was taken with the four pendants, "The Death of General Reynolds," "The Charge of the Pennsylvania Reserves," "The Repulse of the Louisana Tigers" and "The Repulse of General Johnson's Divi-ion," to Harrisburg.

Personally the artist was striking looking. His features were strongly modeled, and a mass of silvered hair fell negligently in true artistic fashion above his brow. He was tall and lithe, and in the old days was not infrequently taken for an actor. Although his brush had been laid aside for a long time prior to his death, he retained to the last a strong interest in all that pertained to art. It was a pleasure to visit him at his home at Linfield, a picturesque village nestling in the bosom of Montgomery

county, about thirty-four miles from Philadelphia. It is a quaint house built in 1803, with old-fashioned gables and a spacious piazza overlooking a garden in which flowers abloom, trees in the full luxuriance of foliage, robins twittering their summer call and the blue sky bending over all paint a picture instinct with the charm of happy home life.

Mr. Rothermel was one of the now rapidly lessening group of older artists of whom Russell Smith, America's best known scene painter; John Sartain, the engraver, and George R. Bonfield, who recently completed his ninetieth year, are the few shining links that remain to bind us to the days when Sully painted social beauties and Naegle distinguished men, and Bass Otis and Rembrandt Peale conducted drawing classes.

It was a pleasure to coax the old painter into an easy chair on the shaded piazza of his country home on a summer afternoon, and there to follow his mellow, deep-toned voice down the current of a long life's reminiscences. The constant tribute of an appreciative public will be paid to his merits as an artist, but to those who thus came near him in friendship, in personal intercourse, many words, many deeds will remain to embalm the memory of the painter of the "Battle of Gettysburg" through future years.

Mr. Rothermel died on August 15, 1895, at his home in Linfield, Montgomery county.

LOUIS M. CHILDS, Esq., a prominent and successful attorney of Norristown, is a son of Jacob and Lester (Foss) Childs, and was born in Norristown, August 19, 1852. Mr. Childs is of English-Quaker lineage, and the old world home of the family was at Cale's Hill in Herford county, England, from which locality the founder of the family in America came in 1693. One of the original immigrants to this country was Henry Childs, who first settled in Philadelphia, but later removed to Ann Arundel county, Maryland, where he died in 1740. He was a well-to-do husbandman, and purchased from William Penn a tract of one thousand acres of land in southern Bucks county in what is now Plumbstead township. His family consisted of two sons, Cephas and Henry, and five daughters. Cephas married Mary Atkinson in 1716, and purchased one-half of the one thousand acre tract in Bucks county, and through conveyance from his father in 1739 became the sole owner of the entire tract. He was a devoted and active member of the Plumbstead Friends' Meeting and served for two years as a member of the Pennsylvania State legislature. He was a man of strong, sturdy character, keen of intellect, and wielded a potent influence in the community. He died in 1756. He was the father of five sons: Abraham, Henry, Isaac, John, and Cephas, jr.

Henry, the second son, was the great-great-grandfather of the subject of this biographical record. He was born in 1728, and in 1750 his father deeded to him one hundred and forty-five acres, a part of the old homestead in Bucks county. He married Mary Shoemaker, and one of his sons was John Childs, great-grandfather, who married, at Abington Meeting, Mary Phipps, of Abington township. He died in 1816, well advanced in years. He was the father of ten children, of which John, grandfather, was the youngest. The latter was born in 1796, and died in 1824. He married, in 1820, Ann, a daughter of Jacob T. and Mary Moore, and two children, Jacob and

John, were born of this union. The former mentioned of the two children, father of Louis M. Childs, was born in 1822, and died in 1886. He obtained an elementary education in the common schools and then attended for a time the Norristown academy. His career in after life was creditable and exemplary and was marked in industry and probity. Politically, he was a Whig up to the disruption of that party, but upon the formation of the Republican party he became a staunch supporter of the new party and steadfastly supported it all his life. From 1850 until his death he was a member of the town council of Norristown and for six years was treasurer of the borough. His marriage to Lydia Foss, daughter of Joseph Foss, who resided near Coatesville, Chester county, this State, resulted in the birth of five children, as follows: Mary, who died at the age of nine years; Louis M., subject; Walter F. and Emma H., twins; and Lillian.

Louis M. Childs received his preliminary education in the public schools of Norristown, graduating from the high school at the early age of twelve years. He then took a course of special instruction, and prepared himself to enter the University of Pennsylvania, at Philadelphia. From the scientific department of this time-honored institution of learning he was graduated in 1872 as a member of the first scientific class graduated from the University. After leaving college, Mr. Childs assisted his father in his factory as clerk and general assistant until he arrived at the age of twenty-one years, when, having resolved upon the law as a life profession, he entered upon its study in the office of Gilbert Rodman Fox, Esq., of Norristown, and was admitted to the bar of Montgomery county in February, 1876. He at once formed a partnership with his preceptor and this business alliance continued until the spring of 1888, when he entered into a law partnership with Montgomery Evans, Esq., under the caption of Childs & Evans. Mr. Childs is a member of the Montgomery County Bar association and for one year was solicitor of the borough of Norristown.

On September 26, 1879, he was united in marriage with Alice G. Hibberd, a daughter of Norris Hibberd, of Bridgeport. This marriage has been blessed in the birth of two children: Alice H., and Marjorie. Mr. Childs stands in the front rank of the legal profession of Montgomery county. He possesses a comprehensive knowledge of the law, is careful in the preparation of his cases and has won an enviable success in his chosen profession. Intellectually, he is a man of culture, innate refinement, and diversified knowledge.

THOMAS HOVENDON. At the hour of five on the afternoon of August 14, 1895, Thomas Hovendon met his tragic and heroic death. He was instantly killed in an attempt to rescue a child of ten years from a passing train on the Trenton cut-off in Plymouth township, Montgomery county. The heroism of the act was a beautiful though pathetic finale of a life imbued with true nobility and pervaded with a moral sense whose efflorescence was like the scent of some sweet flower. His death at any time would have been a tragedy to art; but under the attendant circumstances, it was appalling. No one of his time had earned a wider popularity or enjoyed to a higher degreee the admiration and respect of his profession. Ardent American as he was, in his feeling as in his work, he was not of

native birth, having been born in Ireland, at Dunmanway, in County Cork, December 28, 1840. He began his studies in Dublin, but came to this country in the early period of the war and entered the schools ot the National Academy of Design in New York. In 1874 he went to Paris, where he worked in the Ecole des Beaux Arts under Cabanel, and immediately began to exhibit in the Salon, each year's picture attracting increased attention. These pictures were mainly of Breton peasant life. His studies in Brittany led to an interest in the heroic struggles of the people, and in 1880 he exhibited the picture of the Vendean peasants arming for battle, "In Hoc Signo Vinces," which fully established his reputation.

In this year Hovendon returned to New York, where the picture just named was exhibited at the National Academy. He was recognized at once as a leader among the young painters who were then coming home from Paris and Munich. He was elected an associate of the National Academy the next spring and an academician in 1882. The intense sympathy with the weak and humble that was always a dominating influence in his character, as well as the artist's sense of the picturesque, interested him in the negroes, and for several years after his return to America his pictures were generally of darkey life, of which he expressed at once the humor and the pathos. About this time he married Miss Corson, of the well-known Montgomery county family, herself an artist, and one whose home associations with the Quaker Abolitionists of the old day accorded well with Hovendon's own sympathies. He settled at Plymouth Meeting, and he and his wife set up their studio in an old barn that had done service on the Underground railway. Here he painted some of the best of his negro pictures and notably the "Last Moments of John Brown," one of the most earnest if not one of the most interesting of his works.

The drama of the ordinary rustic life was what Hovendon felt as perhaps none of our painters had felt it before, in its simple dignity and pathos. In the plain Pennsylvania home he found his material, transfiguring it with a touch of art. It is necessary to mention only one of his pictures, "Breaking Home Ties," to awaken a universal sympathy. No picture was ever painted in America that reached as deep as this into the universal heart of the people, and it did so by a direct simplicity of which only a master is capable. The "Bringing Home the Bride," which followed this, was less successful because less universal, and last year's picture, "Jerusalem the Golden," bordered on the sentimental; but the picture of the Confederate prisoner in a Pennsylvania farmhouse was one of the noblest expressions we have had of the domestic side of the civil war, and there are many other works of this same period that are worthy to be named with it.

Mr. Hovendon was for a time at the head of the schools of the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, but he found the demand upon his time too great, though he continued to take great interest in the work. He was a thorough master of the whole technical range of his profession and experimented with and mastered every new method that came along, though his own serious style was already well formed. Only last year he played a good natured trick on the jury of selection at the Academy by sending in anonymously an impressionist study that he had painted the night before and which was accepted with acclamation. He was a man of very positive views of the seriousness of art and was always ready to

combat the "art for art's sake" theory, so that some of the young painters thought him old fashioned, though no artist ever was more receptive to new ideas or more generous in his appreciation of his fellow craftsmen.

He held his opinions strongly, because they were based on knowledge. He painted landscape, flowers, portraits, all brilliantly; he was one of the most successful American etchers; he was widely and deeply read, and with his Irish impetuosity, he had an Irishman's warmth of heart and sincerity of affection that made him one of the best-loved men in his profession. He was an influential member of all the leading art societies, including the National Academy of Design, the American Society of Artists, the Artist's Fund society, the Etching club, the Art club and many others, and in every one of these his untimely death will be profoundly mourned.

Hovendon stood in the forefront of the American painters of the day. The very modern critics affected to despise his art because it always had something to say, but even they acknowledged that he said it with consummate skill. And what he had to say was always something honest and true, something that touched the universal human heart and touched it with a noble sentiment.

It was this that gave Hovendon his wide popular fame. He painted not merely for other painters, but for the people. Yet purely as a painter we have no one who is his superior, in the whole range of technical achievement, and he employed his skill with a breadth of understanding and earnestness of purpose that completed the character of a great artist.

The honesty of Hovendon's art was an expression of the honesty of the man. The earnestness, the manliness, the warm humanity of his nature had made him a personal force in his profession, and to his friends the horror of his death is only mitigated by the fact that he met it, as he would have been glad at any time to meet it, in an act of heroic sacrifice.

THE BROWER FAMILY. — FIRST GENERATION.— Henry Brower, the progenitor, was born February 14, 1720, and died October 14, 1784. He settled in Coventry township, Chester county, Pennsylvania, near Lawrenceville, upon a farm granted to him by his father-in-law, Peter De Fraine, in 1741.

The origin of this family is in Holland, though there is some probability that his direct ancestry was from Germany, near Worms. They were Mennonites, and as is well known, many of this sect went from Holland to Germany, and settled in various localities, removing thence to America, where they established their religious meetings along the Schuylkill, Skippack, and Deep Run, in this county. Some of them came in the early part of 1700, and a few as early as the middle of the seventeenth century.

The Holland name is Brawer, or Brouwer, as spelled by Adrian Brower, the Dutch painter who was born in 1608 at Haarlam. The latter was an artist of eminence, had an admirable eye for color, and much spirit in design; he died in 1640. During the war with the Netherlands he went to Antwerp, where he was seized as a spy and taken to the citadel. Here to prove himself a painter he executed a sketch of the guards who had him in custody. This picture was shown to Rubens, who imme-

diately exclaimed: "That's the work of Brauwer! No other artist could treat the subject in that style." By the interposition of Rubens he was discharged. His works are few and rarely met with. The largest collection of his masterpieces is in the picture gallery at Munich. At the Centennial exposition in 1876 the Brauer Brothers, woolen manufacturers, of the Netherlands, exhibited the very finest woolen blankets and other woolen fabrics of the finest qualities.

Contemporaneously with Henry Brower, about 1750, Christian Brower and John Brower owned large farms in the same locality, and about 1765 Enoch Brower and wife, Eva, were the owners of a farm. The kinship of these four is not known by their posterity, but Henry Brower and his descendants always claimed to be Hollanders, and letters and other manuscripts filling about two bags, passing between them and their Dutch correspondents, were preserved at the Brower homestead, Coventry, until about the middle of the present century, when during a housecleaning, because of being cumbersome and producing the "silver fish," they were committed to the flames, and thus perished an important link, no doubt, in this lineage.

From the middle to the latter part of the last century and the beginning of this, the Browers of Pennsylvania and of New York and New Jersey, visited each other and exchanged notices of deaths and other events occurring to their immediate families. It was traditionary that one of the New York families who rode to the Schuylkill to visit the Browers, on his return was struck by lightning and killed. A correspondence with D. B. Brower, an attorney-at-law, of Hannibal, New York, under date of May 12, 1895, establishes the fact of an entry in his family bible taken from his father's bible, to wit: "Adolphus Brower, born in Holland, killed by lightning near Hackensack, N. J." The bible containing the original entry is said to be in the possession of Mr. Wilkes, of Tompkinsville, Long Island, N. Y. Adolphus Brower had a son Nicholas, who was born March 8, 1747. Of this ancestry is the said N. B. Brower.

The first known of this family in America is Adam Brower, who died in New York in 1692; will recorded in Vol. 4, page 278, 1692. The birth of eight sons and two daughters and of many of their descendants are known and preserved on record. In the several litigations which were carried on from fifty to sixty years ago as regards the Trinity Church, Fulton street, and other properties in the city of New York by the Brower heirs, being the descendants of Anneke Jans, valued at many millions of dollars, the descendants of Henry Brower were regarded as of kinship, and were consulted and contributed to defray the expenses incurred. Apart from these considerations there is a very strong resemblance between some of the present posterity, and so marked is it that Miss Adelaide C. Brower, of Doylestown, a daughter of Christian and Catharine Brower, while on a visit to a sister, was mistaken by the physician of a Brower family of Brooklyn for the daughter of that family, and not until the ensuing conversation became confusing to the doctor could he be convinced of his error. The descendants are now to be found in many of the States. One family settled, in the middle of the last century, in the Carolinas, who corresponded with and visited those on the Schuylkill and are of that ancestry. And one of the Carolina descendants was a

member of Congress some years ago, and some are merchants, planters, and professional men in the Carolinas and Tennessee. The biographies of those who are the direct descendants of Daniel and Frances Brower (of the second generation) are noted upon other pages.

Henry Brower was twice married. His first wife was Miss De Fraine. They had two children: Salome nee Brower, wife of Jacob Baugh; and Abraham Brower, who married Magdalena Buckwalters. The second marriage was with Barbara High (formerly Hoch), a daughter of Jacob High, of New Hanover township. The wife of Jacob High was Elizabeth, a daughter of Daniel Langenecker (now Longaker), of Mingo, who settled there in 1733 on two hundred and forty acres of land. To the second union were born six children: John Brower; Isaac Brower, married May Gabel; Daniel Brower, settled in Providence; Jacob Brower, died unmarried; Elizabeth, nee Brower, wife of Jacob Urmy. Of this generation there are many descendants.

As some of the prominent posterity of Daniel Brower are sketched in this volume it is proposed to narrate more particularly the biography of his descendants.

Daniel Brower married Frances Reiff about the beginning of 1779. Their issue are: Henry, who was born May 3, 1780, and after marriage settled in Canada and died in his ninety-third year. There are numerous descendants of this family. Barbara Brower Kurtz, who had a family of about eight children; Frances, who married Nathan Pennypacker (their son, Doctor Jacob Pennypacker, was a noted physician, who practiced near Phoenixville for nearly half a century); Joseph, a practical farmer; and Ann, who married James A. Pennypacker, and from this union there was a son, Doctor Nathan, who became eminent as a physician and was a member of the State legislature. He practiced near Phoenixville. His widow and daughter survive him, and are now residing at Phoenixville. There was also a daughter Mary, who married William Williamson, at one time part owner and editor of the Montgomery *Ledger* at Pottstown; his wife and several children survive him and are living at Pottstown. Eliza, second wife of Nathan Pennypacker, and one child, Frances, married to Joseph Fitzwater, merchant and farmer, residing near Mont Clare. Christian Brower, whose sketch appears in another part of this work; Abraham, see his sketch, on another page; Mary, married Abraham Beitler; their grandsons, Abraham M. and Lewis, are noticed hereafter; Sarah Brower, died unmarried; Daniel R., the father of Doctor R. R. Brower, whose sketch appears in another part; Catharine, who married the Hon. Henry Longaker; Ann, who married Rev. John H. Umstead, who was a prominent divine in the Dunkard congregations in this State and Maryland. He lived on a farm of about one hundred acres near the Green Tree Meeting house. One of the daughters, who married Milton Davis, is now residing upon the same farm.

CHRISTIAN BROWER was born the eleventh day of September, 1784, at Brower's Locks, Upper Providence. He died June 22, 1869. His true achievement was character-building. He was chaste from birth to death; in the 54th anniversary of their marriage he called those of his descendants living near to him and told them that he would leave the legacy of a good character, and said in substance that he had so lived that he could return to any neighborhood in

which he had resided with a clear conscience that he had been an honorable citizen, and that his descendants could retrace his footsteps and that they would find each period of his life without shame or blush.

He early believed Jesus Christ to be the son of God, and accepted him as his Lord and Savior. Believing the Bible to be the revealed will of God, with a faith simple and strong, he obeyed its precepts—relying on the Holy Spirit for light and guidance. He was baptized by triune communion, by his wife's uncle, John Price, the "Boy Preacher," and united with the Dunkard church shortly after his marriage.

His wedding gift to his wife was a family Bible. On the evening of his wedding day, upon this Bible—they covenanted before God—that its teachings should be the rule of conduct for themselves and family, and that all individual differences of desire or opinion should conform to its teachings. This covenant was never broken during the fifty-four years of their union, but was renewed and strengthened at the advent of each of their trials, and all important events in their history.

In the family government, when discipline of any child became necessary, that Bible was opened—preceded by prayer—and the divine teaching suitable to the occasion and correction of the offence, and ending with the suggestive admonition: "Spare the rod and spoil the child," was read in the impressive German voice of the mother, and then followed by the rod, and so judiciously administered that the same offence was never repeated. The subsequent careers of this family of masterful, independent and original children prove the justness and good judgment of the exercise of this discipline. The children rise up and call their parents blessed. The use of the rod was delegated to the mother because of the impulsiveness of the father, which made his great physical strength dangerous to the child. He was impulsive but slow of speech, and an incident in his early youth illustrates his impulsive nature. Journeying on horse-back across this State and riding up to an inn, he saw a half-witted girl grossly insulted by two young men. He quickly sprang from his horse, seized each by the collar and knocked their heads together so firmly that one of them was so injured that he laid at the point of death for several days Realizing what had occurred, he submitted himself to the legal formalities of his offence, but was treated with great leniency, the witnesses all vindicating him, and then he remained and nursed the young man while suffering from the injury.

He subsequently related that his emotion at that sick bed was intense. He realized his impetuosity, his impulse to strike under indignation, his great physical strength, his inability to control his acts aside from Divine aid, and he prayed to God "to show him the way to hold himself" After awhile the answer came: "Clasp your hands behind your back." With him to know was to do, and many times the observer saw the mild, brown eyes, flash while under indignation at some wrong being done by another, and then he would quickly clasp his hands behind his back and maintain self-control. His habit of walking with his hands behind his back was acquired from this circumstance.

He saw a like impulse in his youngest child and made her tenth anniversary day memorable by telling her this incident, and extracted two vows from her, the one to clasp her hands behind her under all serious emotion; the other, so long as she bore his name never to receive a gift of value from

a stranger. If the necessity seemed to arise, some near male relative must decide the matter and receive the gift He desired this because he saw a disposition in the child to be influenced unduly through gratitude.

As a Christian his faith was remarkably simple and direct. To know the divine teaching was to obey it implicitly and without perversion.

As a citizen he honored the constitution of his State and country, he loved its flag, and taught his children to place the constitution next to the Bible. Politically he was an Old Line Whig, and after the decadence of that party he voted but once for president—for the son of his old friend, Dr McClellan—saying if he is like his father it will make little difference what his party politics are.

In his family he was patriarchal. He had high ideas of honor. His wife was honored, protected and loved. His children were his pride as well as his care. In hospitality he excelled. His invitation to "pot luck" was genuine, and guest and help were treated with dignified respect and protection. The widow and orphan in need were kindly cared for, and the sick and afflicted he was always ready to assist.

In financial matters he regarded "his word as good as his bond," a promise made or obligation assumed was strictly kept and was promptly performed. His persistence in the "narrow way" was the key-note to the development of character.

He was, in turn, merchant, miller, farmer. As a miller he was noted for his skill in dressing the mill-stones. He built a dam across the Perkiomen creek. The old dam was faulty and his neighbors said the freehets were so strong that the dam could not resist their force. In building the new dam all the foundation stones were laid by himself, with suitable help assisting. Up to the time of his death the dam has not burst and has withstood all the freshets. This work he considered one of his best achievements. The mill is located above Perkiomenville, as has lately and for many years, been known as Schneider's mill. He removed from the mill to Philadelphia subsequently. His business relations introduced him to many merchants, who came from the West and South to make their purchases of new stock. Some of them sent their sons to the medical schools of that city, and he was noted for the kind fatherly care and advice which he gave to the young men thus introduced to him. Some years after his death an old physician gave a course of lectures before the English and Classical seminary of Doylestown. The youngest child of Christian Brower attending these lectures was greatly annoyed by the puzzled manner in which the lecturer gazed at her. At the close of the course he came to her saying: "Why did you not tell me you were the daughter of Christian Brower? He was my friend. He saved me when a young medical student." He said that many other students had proclaimed her father their friend and guided them on their introduction to city life. He said his apology for gazing at her was that he had seen her eyes in some man before he saw her.

He removed from Philadelphia to Bridge Point in Bucks county, and while residing here, and some fifteen years before the erection of the Baptist church at Doylestown, a prayer meeting was held at his home by a few Baptists, who agreed that the county town should have a Baptist church, and they consecrated themselves to that work. After the lapse of so much time he furnished about two-thirds of the cost of the

ground upon which the church was erected. After the erection had commenced his great wish was to see it under roof. He felt that he would never worship in it, but he did want to walk along the peak of the roof. He lived to see it under roof and he walked the peak without any assistance. He had great steadiness in high places. He did not live to worship in it. About ten days after this he passed in sleep to his reward. His prayers and ministrations were ended, and the family was left without his loving kind presence. The day before his death he gave his wife into the care of his youngest child, saying: "You must balance mother." She was an invalid and he had been doing the serious work of "balancing her." His daily prayer was that his children and his children's children to the end of time may all have their names written in the "Lamb's Book of Life," and have part in the first resurrection.

He had a very high ideal of the obligations and conduct relating to hospitality. "To turn and rend those who had cast the great pearl of hospitality in one's way"—"to lift up the heel after partaking of the loaf," was indicative of character too unworthy to be retained under his roof.

One who had been spending a whole winter in his household, and to whom every attention as to comfort was given, while visiting some of the neighbors told some petty falsehoods in regard to his wife, the neighbors not believing what was said, so informed him. When he returned home and entered the house, he had his hands locked behind him, his eyes blazing with indignation, he said: "Where is Mrs. ——?" His wife tried to mollify him. "That woman has broken our bread—and now she has belied you—not one word this time, my dear." * * * The accused came and tried to flatter him and denied the charge. In a voice so calm it was terrible, he said: "You have broken my loaf and lifted up your heel against my wife. Prepare to leave my house to-morrow morning. I'll not turn you out at night. You lied about my wife." She winced at the reiterated charge. "But I always spoke well of you." "My wife and I are one. To-morrow morning you will leave my house." The trunk was packed and next morning she left the house and was driven to the station to depart in the cars.

His personality. A discriminating artist said: "He is an ideal model of a righteous man of the Dutch type." He was persistent in the right, almost inflexible, but not stubborn, nor unreasonable, and yielding readily if he were made to perceive that he was wrong, and withal was most forgiving. His temperament was the nervous sanguine with a strong trend to the poetic strain. A profound Christian, professedly Baptist, patriotic, concentered in his family, slow of speech, impulsive, quick to strike yet self-restraining, intolerant of evil, sympathetic of suffering, authoritative, always in the front, amiable, loving of good, almost perfect physique. His hair was jet black, face cleanly shaved save before the ears, complexion clear and bright, nose short, Roman, large broad fronted and slightly pinched at the back base. Eyes large, dark brown, well set, and usually mild, inviting, trustful, but under feeling or provocation, blazing, penetrating, masterful and fearless before evil or danger. Voice clear, strong and sympathetic. Height five feet six inches. Body, thick set, of great muscular power, endurance and agility. In death his countenance was lifelike, and placid as if glorified. It is said that two who were unbelievers in Christ,

were made, while looking on his body, to doubt their unbelief. The one said: "It is death smothered in life." The other: "It is more than death; it is triumph." And thus, while in physical death, his countenance continued to proclaim his risen Lord. He was buried at Green Tree Dunkard Meeting, Montgomery county, but was re-interred at the death of his widow in Hope cemetery, now Doylestown cemetery.

CATHARINE BROWER, wife of Christian Brower was a descendant of the Price family (born July 23, 1797; died January 3, 1878). Jacob Price, the ancestor, spelled his name Preiss; he was born in Witzenstein, Prussia. In the fall of 1719, because of religious persecution, he came to America, and stayed about Germantown until 1721, when he settled at Indian Creek, in Lower Salford township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania. It is traditionary in the family that a brother came with him, who settled in Virginia, and some of whose descendants now reside in Brooklyn, New York. Jacob Price was of small stature, imperfectly developed, but a powerful preacher. It is from this ancestry that Catharine descended, she being a daughter of Daniel Price; of the fifth generation, who married Hannah Baugh; her sister Sarah, married Edward Davis, and her brother William married, and was the father of Daniel Price, now president of the Pottstown bank, Penna. The descendants of other branches of Jacob Price are numerous in Montgomery and Chester counties.

A sketch of the life of this remarkable mother is as interesting and instructive as that of her husband. She was born in Chester county, Penna., nearly opposite to Pottstown. She was the eldest child, and her father died when she was thirteen years old, and her mother became an invalid. This defeated the plans of her father to have her educated at the Moravian seminary at Bethlehem, Penna. This young child, with the aid of the bond servants, thus became the acting head of the house until her marriage in her seventeenth year. She was proud, sensitive, imaginative, conservative, mathematical, with marked ability to comprehend and memorize many details, resourceful under all circumstances, and wise in execution. She reverenced her husband and obeyed her God. She was poetical with chaste taste and great love for the beautiful and artistic. In her fifth year she painted original designs of flowers with pigments made from crushed berries and leaves, soft stones and earth of various colors. This gift of subduing her surroundings to meet her needs continued through life. When the handsome young Dutchman asked her hand in marriage from her guardian and uncle, John Price, her uncle told her that she was honored above all young women; that Christian Brower was a man of unusual character and life. He spoke of him as one without guile or blemish, truthful, honest and loving. Her love for him was intense, and at times she feared she would forget her God because of her husband. She had a great desire for literary knowledge, and self culture seemed to be her strongest affection. She saw that she would not meet all the demands of the headship of the family and read and study. This was a severe crisis. She disliked domestic cares and maternal duties. She laid the matter before her God; she made the sacrifice, and turned from herself and her ambition, and forbade herself the reading of any book except the Bible and the almanac. She bothered herself with chil-

dren other than her own, and read her Bible with daily zeal, which never left her. Not until after she was fifty years of age, could she be persuaded to read any other book; and after that, for the sake of her youngest child, she added the reading of a weekly Baptist paper. She believed that prayer and spiritual song were the two legitimate emotional outlets for those "called to be saints," and these were of daily observance in the household.

She was a constant teacher of charity, morals and spiritual belief. Chaste in act, thought and speech, she permitted only orderly acts and sound, refined speech. Dialect or slang or perfervid expression was severely repressed. Her method of bringing explanations and teachings to a forceful end is typically illustrated by the following. Adelaide, a little daughter, asked the meaning of "ducking-stool." Her mother described it, and the "Scold's Bridle" remarking that if all overburdened and weak women would pray and sing spiritual songs, there would be no use for ducking stools, very little need for insane asylums. Her daily habit was to retire at noon for a half hour of prayer. This, on one occasion, was omitted by some important events occurring, and something happened during the afternoon to cause her to become indignant, and four words (words of command) were quickly uttered, but she immediately recovered herself and said to her youngest daughter: "Now you see what comes to your mother when she does not retire to pray." I told you I was impulsive and quick of tongue, now you know it." She arose early in the morning, usually about four o'clock, to pray for her children, and her children's children to the end of time. She could not endure the thought that any of them should be eternally lost. Ten children were born to this marriage, and seven of them lived and reached maturity, and surived her; and besides these she cared for in her family one niece and two nephews, who were instructed and received as her own, and other children whose parents were unable to support them, were llkewise cared for. She was almost exclusively engaged in her household, seldom making visits, except in cases of need, giving aid in sickness and affliction.

What seemed to her to be her greatest humiliation was the birth of her youngest child. She had been and was suffering from malarial neuralgia and nervous exhaustion, and she believed that the child could not be strong. She had borne nine healthy, unblemished children. Now her pride and her ambition were crushed. She who had always been so strong, and she who hated weakness, to be the mother of weakness. This episode was very pathetic. For three years, while the child was a weakling, she plead with the Lord to take it; it would always have pain; it never could be successful; but her desire was not God's will. The child lived and grew in health, and at last she found her joy in a daughter so like the father in love and devotion to her, that after his loss, she trusted this child to care for her, under conditions of suffering and loss of memory, that proved to her, even in her weakness, that God had cared for her in her humiliation. One who knows the family well, says: "All that is womanly, dutiful, lovely and faithful in parental devotion finds its greatest excellence in Adelaide C. Brower."

In her church work she was active in the organization of the First Baptist church at Doylestown. So long as her health permitted she led the Women's meeting. Able to preside, exhort, pray and sing, or keep

silent, her wisdom was recognized by all. All her daughters were taught to nurse the sick and reared to habits of good housewifery. She loved life and was satisfied with it, but during the last six months of it, she expressed a desire to depart. She was satisfied. Her life seems best summed up in the life of her children.

Christian Brower, at the time of his marriage, June 13, 1814, to Catharine Price, lived at Uniontown, Chester county; thence he removed to the Perkiomen mills; thence to Philadelphia, and thence to Bridge Point, Bucks county.

CHILDREN OF CHRISTIAN AND CATHARINE BROWER.—This sketch would be incomplete without some note of the children and grandchildren of these remarkable parents, who have themselves become notable. The seven children who arrived at maturity are: Amelia Douglass, born February 26, 1815, and twice married; first, June 22, 1834, to William T. De Bree; second time, to Robert Johnson, November 5, 1857. Nathan Pennypacker Brower, born May 21, 1818. Elizabeth Pennypacker Brower, born February 22, 1821, married February, 1848, to Rev. Frederick Kitcham. Davis Edward Brower, born April 19, 1822. Anne Brower married Jacob Darst, August 1, 1844; her husband died April 1, 1856, and December 10, 1857, she married Jacob Darst, a cousin of her first husband. Sarah, born March 16, 1829, married the Rev. William H. Wyckoff, LL. D., of Brooklyn, New York. Adelaide Catherine, born November 20, 1839, the youngest, living at Doylestown with her brother Davis.

Amelia's first husband was of English ancestry (his mother a Taylor, whose family for many generations were employed in the Bank of England) and only brother of John De Bree, a long-time purser in the United States navy. Her first husband was improvident and a spendthrift, and she and her children were obliged to return to the home of her father. Mr. De Bree died sometime prior to 1857. In 1857 she married Robert Johnson, a prosperous farmer of Bucks county. There were no children by this marriage. She was a noble, sensitive woman, of the rarest purity, devotion, and faithful attention to all details in her life work. She was an earnest church worker, and before her second marriage spent much time in charitable work, and was very active in organizing the Baptist church at Doylestown; for two years she had charge of the infant department of its Sunday school. She died about twenty-five years after her second marriage.

Nathan De Bree, a child of the first marriage, deserves more than a passing notice. He has been connected with the telegraph service since about 1860. He entered the army as an operator, and at the close of the war engaged with the Western Union and became manager of the Louisville office. During the first great strike, he kept the office open and the important business moving. After this he was in the Construction and Engineering Branch, superintending the work in different States of the Union.

In 1873 he was engaged in the work of repairing the interrupted sub-marine cables between Cuba and Florida. He made a topographical map of the Gulf bottom between Cuba and Key West Reef and between Bahama and the coast of Florida, and laid the new cables by which a double line to the coast of Cuba was completed in 1879. When he undertook this work he

had no practical nautical knowledge. The maps were misleading, new surroundings had to be made. He was sent out with a crew who had never seen a cable. The old cable was badly worn and eaten so that it was difficult to follow, but his great ingenuity and untiring energy surmounted all difficulties. After the completion of this line he was ordered to Baltimore, Maryland, to reorganize that office and the district within a radius of one hundred miles. His predecessor was in feeble health and many clerks had become insubordinate. In three days they realized that they had a new manager who could manage. The fourth day he announced an order that no employees who came into the office intoxicated would be retained. Some of the employees seemed inclined to test the new manager. He, like his grandfather Brower, whom he greatly resembles, is slow of speech, but quick of perception and movements. One day a clerk came in drunken and he and the whole force in the office were insolent. He called the offending clerk to the platform, and in the presence of the others discharged him, but he refused to leave. He was seized by the back of the neck and thoroughly shaken, and when released from the powerful grip of the manager he was glad to quickly disappear. There was no more insubordination until the great strike of the 80's, and during it he managed to keep the important offices in his district open by putting his young children, who could use the keys more or less, in responsible positions.

Since this time he has been largely interested in improvements in multiplex telegraphy and underground work, and is now engaged to put in operation an underground system at Toledo, Ohio.

He, it is thought, is the greatest of the grandsons of Christian Brower. He was born in October, 1838, and married Ida Harlan, a daughter of Dr. Harlan, of Virginia. He was an able organizer, with large ability to comprehend detail, and power for delicate manipulation, energy, resistance, and withal persistent and resourceful. He is a commander of men, a disciplinarian, and kindly friend. He stands as a marvelous representative of his ancestry. He showed the trend of his genius in childhood. He would place all the playthings in line over the floor and send his little aunt, a year younger than himself, to listen while he spoke; and so the children played telegraphing when four years old, in 1842.

Nathan P. Brower, now one of the under superintendents of the Asylum for the Insane at Norristown, was for many years one of the active and prominent business men of Doylestown, Pa. He was public-spirited, and was one of the active organizers of the Bucks county Agricultural Society, of the Doylestown English and Classical seminary, of the Hope cemetery, and of the building of the meeting house of the Baptist church, and was generally interested in the progress and development of the town.

He is the father of a large family of children: one of them, Mahlon Lewis, residing in Philadelphia, has been a member of the State legislature. He is a good business man of fine executive ability. Anna Azella Brower Schlect, the oldest daughter, was first a school teacher; next she taught in the House of Refuge, and was promoted to assistant matron. Thence she went to the Preston Retreat, and had the position of matron for several years, and resigned when she married Mr. Schlect. Adelaide was a gifted and careful nurse,

and attended to the sick of the family with great fidelity and success.

Elizabeth P. married the Rev. Ketcham. She went to the central part of Illinois in 1850, where her husband engaged in missionary work. She was happily married, and had two step-daughters whom she brought up well, and became the mother of four able men. She was the gifted one amongst the daughters, of literary abilities, highly imaginative, poetic, humorous, analytical; but failed of full development by the duties of matrimony at the time she was gaining recognition as a writer.

Anna married Jacob Darst, merchant, of Circleville, Ohio, and after his death she married his cousin. She was the mother of an interesting group of children. She was gifted, poetical, and artistic, proud of her family, and anxious to fill to the full her position as a wife. She was an ardent reader of pure fiction. She trained her daughter, Lillian, and planted in her the seeds of future success. She read to her in her very little girlhood Scott and Shakespeare and the Bible with such persistence that at nine years she was able to recite largely from Scott's poems and Shakespeare and relate many prominent narrations of the Bible. She read studiously to the other children. She was a great and delighted reader. For many years she has been an invalid; but the family has been kept together by the children showing great devotion to the mother and clinging together, helping and caring for each other.

Sarah, the father's pet and his greatest happiness amongst his daughters, because of her mildness, quietness, dignity, and freedom from need of discipline (the only child that needed no punishment, no prayers, no rod), and who seemed to profit by the experience of her elders, has had a unique life. She united all her father's ability to make friends and keep them with the strong conservatism of her mother. At school an apt scholar, obedient and reverential to the teachers, she was a joyous cheerful mate to her equals.

She was met at Dr. Cushman's Select School in Washington, D. C., by a gentleman who was a friend of Dr. Wyckoff. On his return to New York he reported to Dr. Wyckoff, that he had found just the lady for him to marry. The doctor was a widower with a son eighteen years old. By this mutual friend, permission was obtained from Christian Brower to have Dr. W. call at the home, Bridge Point. When he came he first saw the mother. He felt the matter already decided; if the daughter is like her he wanted her. He saw her, and she pleased him then and did so until the time of his death. He was her ideal, comely in person, pure, high-bred, God-fearing, and scholarly. He was one of the organizers of the American Bible Union. Through all that serious conflict, when constantly battling for this great truth, her true character shone out brilliantly. Her conservatism and tact were remarkable. He once said of her that she had never alienated a friend of the cause or hardened an enemy. She met at her own house scholars, professional men, friends and non-friends of pure business. She was her husband's confidant, and she used her knowledge to his advantage. She assisted in organizing the first Woman's Missionary society that was formed. It was a union of Protestant denominations. She was one of the managers and one of the editors of the *Missionary Link*. When the different denominations composing it separated, she assisted to organize the Woman's Baptist

Foreign mission, as well as its auxiliary, the Long Island branch, and was president of the latter. She had great tact in presiding and modifying factions. She was self-possessed, dispatched business rapidly, and spoke in a clear, audible, but low voice. She was from its organization and for twenty years or more one of the board of managers of the Home of Aged Baptists of Brooklyn.

After the death of her husband, the settlement of his estate devolved upon her. He had had in hand trust funds and the management of the Bible Union and other like matters out of which arose many complications, all of which opened a new field to her; but she was equal to the task, and out of some confusion she brought order, overcame all difficulties, and successfully settled the estate.

Her musical education was liberal. She sang well. Her children are intellectual, devotedly Christian, and loyal to her and to each other. Her life from childhood has been a beautiful unfolding, without cross purposes to hinder or dispel. Her husband, children, home, and occupations have all been satisfying, and her Christian faith, like her father's, was simple and direct, without much question, or serious rebellion.

Davis Edward Brower was born at the Perkiomen Mills, educated at a Westchester school, conducted by Joshua Hoopes, then entered the hardware trade; next the book trade in Philadelphia; next went to St. Louis, first as assistant editor and then editor of the *Western Watchman*, the leading Baptist paper of the West. A severe attack of typhoid-pneumonia caused his return, and he settled upon his father's farm, Bridge Point, and for many years was a successful and prosperous farmer. Leaving the farm, he entered the services of the American Bible Union as agent for western New York. He had been previously licensed to preach the gospel by the Eleventh Baptist church of Philadelphia, and was ordained a minister of the gospel at the New Britain church. He was one of the active organizers of the Baptist church, of Doylestown, and of the Hope cemetery. Simple and pastoral in his habits, with great love for his people, original in method and patient in reverses, tenacious, persistent, and exact, his true achievement, like his father, has been his character. He is a characteristic descendant of both families, uniting more clearly both branches than any other of the children.

Adelaide Catharine Brower, a partial invalid from birth, has had some trials, strong likes and dislikes, a strong natural religion in conflict with the humility of the religion of Christ, and necessarily turning from her natural self and consecrated by her mother to the Saviour of God and her people, her life has been of service and weakness and pain, upheld by the peace of God, and greatly beloved by the family with a conscience void of offence. She was an earnest church member, and organized the Morning Star Mission band, of Brooklyn, New York. Coming to Doylestown about 1867, she did much active work in the First Baptist church, also the Doylestown English and Classical seminary. The musical department was under her charge and instruction for five and one-half years. Owing to nervous exhaustion she suspended teaching, but soon after her mother's illness changed the current of her life, and devoted her time to her mother during her long period of infirmity, and since has continued in the

house of her brother, Davis Edward, as its head. Her life has been one of discouragement on account of ill health, because her strength was never equal to the duties which she so nobly, lovingly and willingly assumed.

All these children had strong literary tastes and all the daughters were more than usually gifted in song, rythm and poetry, and Elizabeth and Sarah had more than ordinary literary gifts, and became highly cultured ladies, with aptness to compose poetry and especially religious versification. Amongst them and the grandchildren are found farmers, ministers of the Gospel, Evangelical workers, editors, teachers, matrons, telegraphers, engineers, printers, politicians, railroad superintendent, railroad engineers, chief railroad dispatcher, insurance agent, advertising agent, commercial business, artists and poets.

The gift of nursing, inherited from mother and father, has been developed in all the daughters, and in some of the granddaughters, and distinctively in Adelaide, daughter of Nathan. Her devotion and intelligent care of the sick in her own family marks her as a true descendant of her paternal grandparents.

The gift of rythm and rhyme, coming from the Prices, has been developed in the three daughters, Elizabeth, Sarah and Adelaide, the last two writing and composing suitable music to their songs.

Elizabeth and Sarah have published works though somewhat fugitive, yet of much merit, and this poetic talent is largely possessed by Lillie C. Darst, Adelaide E., Ellen and Spencer C. Wyckoff.

Lillie C. Darst, a daughter of Annie and Jacob Darst, (by first marriage), deserves a special sketch. She was born at Circleville, O., where she lived and died. She was born Nov. 20, 1846, and died April 11, 1883. Clipped from the memorial edition of the Circleville *Herald* April 18, 1883, (Extract from Cincinnati *Enquirer*): "She graduated from the high school of Circleville, O., about 1867. Her graduation paper was a poem which attracted much attention. She leased from the owner the Circleville *Herald* in 1875. She was the first woman to enter the field of journalism in Ohio. In 1881 she was elected clerk of the Ohio Senate and was re-elected. She was the first woman in Pickaway county to attract attention beyond its limits by her writings."

From Chicago *Inter-Ocean*: "Miss Lillie C. Darst was in many respects a remarkable woman. She was one of the brightest newspaper correspondents in the country, and the only woman, it is believed, who successfully edited and managed a newspaper which was not an organ for some special department of woman's work or defending woman's rights. * * * She entered the field of journalism, and asked no favor that would not be granted to a man. She took and gave blows in the same spirit that a man would, and it was not long before "Kenneth" was recognized by correspondents as one not to be despised or overlooked. For several years she was associated with the *Herald*, and eight years ago assumed the editorial chair and business management of the paper. There were many cutting paragraphs in Ohio papers about the girl editress, but like the correspondants the editors soon learned that to keep the new management from taking the lead of the county weeklies they must look to something else than writing funny paragraphs about the new editress. * * * For over a year she has not been fit for work, but by force of will had kept her post, do-

ing both the work of a man in the office, and that of a woman looking after household duties at her home, where she had for twenty years taken the place of a mother as well as a sister. When failing health warned her that she must stop, she took a young brother into the office with her and taught him to manage the paper.

She came to Chicago in 1880 to attend the National convention as a correspondent for her own, and other papers, and did efficient work for Senator Blaine. She, in Circleville, Ohio, was the first to name Mr. Blaine for president. Whenever she went to the headquarters she was treated as one whose counsel was wise, and President Garfield was her personal friend. The day he received the nomination he saw Miss Darst approaching, while receiving the congratulations of many distinguished men, and leaving them, he stepped forward to meet her, and talked to the little woman, while the great Republican leaders waited. She was the personal friend of Senators Sherman and Blaine, and by them was considered an able politician as well as a clever writer."

Extract from *Record* of the Ohio Senate:

Resolved, That we learn with great regret the death of Lillie C. Darst, late engrossing clerk of the Senate, which occurred in Chicago Wednesday morning, that the Sergeant at-Arms is hereby directed to keep the flag over the Senate at half mast on Saturday, the day of the funeral, and that the president is hereby authorized to appoint a committee of three members to attend the funeral."

The Indianapolis *Journal* alluding to her death says: "Her poems were greatly admired for their grace and strength. Her prose was exact and able. She made earnest study of politics, and as the editor of the *Herald* she discussed public affairs favorably and understandingly."

Springfield *Republican* said: "She was a woman of genius and culture, a graceful and able writer, and a poet of undoubted rank, and her courage and nerve were really remarkable."

She was a member of the Ohio Editorial Union, and at one time its secretary.

Her step-sister, Marion C. (in giving the record of the family) said: "Of all the family Lillie is so far superior that I hope you will give her the most space, as she is the one who made the rest of us able to go forward and do as we have."

One of her shortest poems is hereby given:

"CRUX ET ASTRUM."

By Kenneth (Lillie C. Darst.)

I sit below the vaulted window height
One spire, one star I view
Against the splendid azure night
By a low moon lit through.

And the star sayeth as a star may, "God!"
Leading my thoughts afar
On a dim path by many fancies trod
Pure as the white rays are.

But the spire sayeth what no star can, "Christ!"
And gently leadeth home
To the dim altar foot in solemn tryst
The restless thoughts that roam.

And not for mystic vision is thy creed,
Oh, Christ, the crucified
But for divert practice in the daily deed
By love thus sanctified.

Of the other children of this interesting family are Harvey Johns Darst, a graduate of Michigan University, once editor with his brother of the *Herald*, but now practicing law; Walter Curtis Darst, now editor of the Circleville *Herald;* Marion Curtis Darst, unmarried, educated in art at the Columbia art school, now artist and teacher of art, having taught in several schools,

but now has her own school and studio; Christian Brower Darst; artist and teacher of wood carving and modeling. He commenced his career as teacher of modeling and wood carving at Columbus art school, subsequently he organized the department of wood carving at the Metropolitan museum art school, and remained at its head until the industrial features of art work were discontinued. He is now teaching in several schools in New York city. He copied with much spirit the portraits of two noted horses, which were sold for high prices; Daniel Price Darst, a printer, lives at Dayton, O., and Edward Davis Darst is an advertising agent.

All these children have acted nobly, for many years they have provided for an invalid mother. They have clung together helping each other, and under Lillie's sacrificing example have been loving, helpful and energetic, and according to their abilities and strength they have been successful.

Another notable grand-child is Adelaide Eliza Wyckoff, a graduate of Packer collegiate institute, a teacher of superior ability, who has taught for three years in the public schools in Brooklyn, then in the Bracket institute, a very select school. While there she was called without application to her *alma mater*, where she was placed in charge of the 3d academic department. She has risen steadily, and for several years has been teacher of psyschology and physiology, and is now in charge of the collegiate department. She has taught twenty-one years, and is the author of two Papers read at the World Congress of Experimental Psychology, Columbian Exhibition, Chicago. She is possessed of high intellectuality, gracious and energetic and lovingly loyal to her mother and the younger children, and is the author of some beautiful poems.

Ella Wyckoff, a younger sister and a graduate ot Packer, is now making the study of Greek a specialty, and she has also the gifts of versification.

A strong family love and care for each other have been shown in all branches of the families, caring for the sick and weak and unfortunate with persistent zeal. Love, sacrifice and persistent labor have been remarkably conspicuous, showing itself most beautifully in Catharine, a daughter of Nathan Weaver Brower, who after the death of her father (at the age of fifteen) began as a dressmaker, to help support the family, and so continued after her marriage until the death of her mother, who breathed her last in the home of this noble daughter.

Of the fifty-four descendants of Christian and Catharine Brower nearly all have chosen to retain God in their heart and follow the example and precept of their progenitors, a strong religious sentiment is entertained by all, and so far none have passed beyond who have not gone in the faith of Christ, their crucified, risen, and coming Lord, and the praying ones have taken up the prayer of the parents. "That our children, and our children's children, to the end of time may have their names in the Lamb's Book of Life, and take part in the first resurrection."

HON. DANIEL BROWER KURTZ of San Louis Rey, San Diego county, Cal., was born March 20, 1820, near Brower Lock, on the Schuylkill, Montgomery county, Pa. His parents were John and Barbara (Brower) Kurtz. When at the age of about 10 years he was an orphan, bereft of both parents. He was taken into the family of his uncle, Daniel R. Brower, then living in

Philadelphia, with whom he resided until he was about sixteen years old. At this time his uncle and family going to Florida, he went to his uncle, Christian Brower, with whom he continued while learning the trade of a carpenter. His education was obtained in the public schools of Philadelphia. For several years he followed his trade, and December 26, 1849, he sailed from Baltimore on the schooner *James Franklin* for California. He settled at San Diego, and in the fall of 1850 he was elected mayor of that city. In 1852 he was elected a member of the State Senate, serving in the sessions of 1853 and 1854. In 1855 he was elected county judge and served until 1860, when he resigned because he was elected a member of the Assembly, serving the term during the session of 1861, and in 1864 he was again elected and served in the Assembly during the session of 1865. Since holding these positions he has served on the board of school trustess and justice of the peace.

He has lived upon his ranch, a tract of many acres, at San Luis Rey, about fourteen miles from San Diego, during the past twenty years, growing principally wheat and rearing horses and cattle. As mayor, legislator, judge and other positions of trust in which he was honored by the people of his locality and State, he has earned a reputation for integrity, honesty and efficiency in the discharge of official duties which places him amongst the foremost of the people of his adopted State. In liberality and hospitality he has exercised to its full measure the heritage which came to him from his maternal ancestry.

Abraham Merklee Beitler, a son of the late Daniel Beitler, and a grandson of Abraham and Mary Brower Beitler, is deserving of more than passing note. He was born in Philadelphia, July 8, 1853, studied in the public schools, graduated from high school class '56 July 1870, studied law with C. Stuart Patterson, admitted January, 1875, appointed assistant city solicitor in 1879 and by gradual advancements became first assistant, and October 18, 1891, was appointed director of the Department of Public Safety. He married October 16, 1879, Julia L. Bornemann. The children of this marriage are: Harold B., born December 30, 1880, Elsie Julia, born December 6, 1888.

Louis Eugene Beitler, a brother of the director, was born in Philadelphia, October 4, 1863, graduated from the senior class Northwest grammar school, took a course in business college in Franklin Institute Drawing school, and a complete course in stenography and a partial course at the University of Pennsylvania Law school. He followed commercial pursuits from 1881 to 1887, then became private secretary to Mayor Fitler until 1891, and was retained in the same position by his successor, Mayor Stuart, which position he resigned in January, 1895, and became private secretary to Governor Hastings. The 12th of June, 1894, he married Miss Clementina Morrillow Beck, and has one child, Edwin Fitler Beitler, born June 23, 1895.

Any further biography of these notable brothers would seem to be supererogatory. They are so well-known in their official positions, and the events which have so recently occurred and are still occurring, that their lives are specially a part of the municipal history of the city which has so highly honored them, and whose citizens they have so well and faithfully served. It may be safely assumed that they have greater and higher honors awaiting them.

Prof. Oscar C. S. Carter (another notable

descendant) is a native of Philadelphia, though of Yankee descent. He is a grandson of Daniel R and Anna (Farmer) Brower and a nephew of Dr. Brower. He was born on the 1st of March, 1857. His mother was Louisa Brower and his father the late Oscar C. B. Carter, was a book publisher of Boston, Mass., and a relative of the present firm of T. H. Carter & Son. Prof Carter was educated in the public schools and graduated first in his class. He then entered the Polytechnic School of Mines and pursued a course in mining engineering with the intention of making that his life work, but for two years he taught in the public schools.

He next entered the junior class of the University of Pennsylvania, taking a course in chemistry and mineralogy under Prof. Genth, and geology under State Geologist Lesley. After two years study he passed the second best examination in chemistry in the class of 1879. He became immediately thereafter the chief chemist of the Midvale Steel works, which is engaged in making guns and armor plate for the government.

In 1880 he was elected professor of chemistry at the Central high school and was the first to teach the subject of qualitative analysis in the high school. In 1881 he was elected drug master in general and analytical chemistry in the medical department of the University of Pennsylvania, and in 1883 he received a medal from the Agricultural society of Pennsylvania for presenting the best means of freeing water from soluble mineral impurities. In the year 1887 he was made professor at the Spring Garden Institute. He holds at the present time the full professorship of geology and mineralogy and associate professorship of chemistry in the high school. In the following year he became a lecturer on chemistry for the United Chatauqua Circles of Philadelphia. When the history of Montgomery county was written he was selected to write the chapter on "Ores, Minerals and Geology." This received very complimentary praise from the press, and was subsequently published in pamphlet form. His publications are to be found in the London "Chemical News," proceedings of "American Philosophical Society," "Journal of Franklin Institute," "Sanitarian," "American Chemical Journal" of Johns Hopkins University, "Pennsylvania Agricultural Reports and Mineral Resources of the United States" His more recent work has been the subject of artesian wells, to which he has given much time and collected and published four papers on the complete records of more than twenty-seven wells in Philadelphia, Montgomery, Chester and Delaware counties. He was offered a position on the staff of chemists at the Philadelphia mint and chief chemist of the largest steel plant west of the Mississippi, at South Pueblo, Col.

He is little given to show and pretence, and by his methods of teaching and kindly treatment soon wins the esteem and affection of all students with whom he comes in contact. We hope that he may live many years to labor in his chosen field.

The father of the professor was Oscar C. B. Carter, who married Mary Louisa Brauer, a daughter of Daniel R. and Ann Billop Pawling Brower. Their children are: Oscar C. S., Gustave Blessner, Mary, and Josephine.

The Carter ancestry come from Garston Manor, near St. Albans, Hertfordshire, England, twenty-one miles north of London, granted by Henry VIII to Richard Carter. At that time it was a monastery

with four hundred acres of land. Thomas Carter, the first to come to this country, was educated at University of Cambridge, a classmate of Cotton Mather, the preacher, in Massachusetts, not far from Lancaster, and the father of the professor, is one of the descendants of Thomas Carter.

HON. ABRAHAM BROWER was born May 22, 1787, on his father's farm of about 200 acres, located on the east bank of the Schuylkill at Brower's Lock, in the canal opposite to a point now known as the Perkiomen Junction with the Reading R. R. He married Margaret, a daughter of Joseph Crawford. Six children of this marriage grew up. Ann married Charles Shephard, a very prosperous farmer who lived on the Schuylkill (east side of it) about one and one-half miles further up the river; Joseph Crawford, who lives on an adjoining farm, John E., who owns and occupies the homestead, and Francis, who maried Samuel H. Umsted. She died soon after her marriage, leaving one son and her husband, both of whom are dead: Abraham Brower, who grew to be a young man, and while felling timber in the woods was crushed under a falling tree and killed, and; Jane, who married John W. Tyson, and died without issue about two years after marriage.

At the death of his father he purchased the homestead, and lived upon it to the time of his death, which occurred in 1873, in his eighty-fifth year. His principal occupation was farming and lime burning, and conducting a small store at the lock, for the accommodation of the boatmen chiefly and for a few of his nearest neighbors.

His farm became famous for the fine farm horses which he reared there, not only for his own use in farming and in hauling lime, but for the benefit of his neighbors as well as for sale to the frequent buyers from other localities. The Eclipse stock of horses acquired a reputation not only in that locality, but in some parts of New Jersey. He always had many more young horses than were required to carry on the farming and lime business, and so numerous did they become at times as to be a serious charge upon his finances. His great love for them made him loath to sell the favorites. He enjoyed life and has delighted to have others enjoy it. His great hospitality was extended unstintedly and without question and those in want never went away without aid, and the hungry never departed from under his roof unfed. He was endowed with great common sense, and his opinion was of great weight on public and private affairs. At all seasons, and especially in the winter there were usually quartered with him those of improvident families, whose wants he charitably supplied.

Old Aunt Flora (Harry), as she was called, came into his household as an emancipated slave of the Crawford family, and she and some of her descendents were his pensioners. One of her sons "Blind Cain" so nicknamed, was of the household most of his time. Cain was almost totally blind, though he could distinguish daylight from darkness. He frequently attended vendues, militia training and holiday gatherings, and being expert to imitate a horse neighing, cattle bawling, pigs squealing, sheep bleating, dogs barking, cats mewing, the cock crowing, the birds singing, and whistling, etc., he greatly amused the people and thereby liberally replenished his purse, and for a period of thirty years he was a frequent visitor in several families of the Brower descendants, traveling by the aid of

a cane only, five and ten miles at a stretch, finding his destination without mischance, and generally remaining a week or two as a single visit. The home of Hon. Henry Longaker was one at which he tarried several times yearly to see Catharine (Mrs. Longaker) as he familiarly called her. During a visit shad, fresh from the Delaware, had been served several times with the tail end of the fish for his portion. Tiring of his portion he said "Catharine, I smell shad frying; please keep me the head this time, with a good deal of the fish to it."

Mr. Brower was a very popular man and in 1840 he was elected a member of the State Senate over the Hon. J. B. Sterigere. He was the Whig candidate and the county usually was decidedly Democratic. He had a fine personality, commanding attention wherever he went, about six feet tall, physically well formed, very amiable countenance, eyes sparkling with good humor, blond complexion, and withal a very handsome man.

His home so well presided over by his excellent housewife, had a reputation far and near, and he seemed to live in a patriarchal state rather than as an ordinary farmer. About five years preceding his death his wife, while preparing a meal, had her dress to take fire, and before help could come she was so horribly burned as to cause death within a day or so after its sad occurrence.

Daniel R. Brower, a brother of the Hon. Abraham Brower, and father of Doctor Daniel R. Brower, whose sketch appears in another part of this volume, was a good and versatile business man. He was very progressive and a great friend of education, and wherever he resided he was foremost in establishing good schools. He lived successively in Philadelphia, a year or two in Florida, then in Manyunk, next at Phœnixville, and last at Norristown.

His sons and daughters were very patriotic during the late war, Elizabeth was an efficient and distinguished nurse, and Rachael Evans, wife of Cadawalader Evans, did much good work in the Sanitary Department of the army. These ladies have received well deserved notice by former local historians.

The daughters of this remarkable family were ladies of more than ordinary attainments in the polite society of their day, and were amongst the foremost in the handiwork of the household, and many of the textiles manufactured for family use were made from woolen yarn, or flaxen thread spun by them, and this, now almost lost art, they taught their daughters, as well as other craft in good housekeeping. Nearly all of them with their husbands were settled upon the rich lands bordering on the Schuylkill river, and were of the most prosperous of the farmers of their locality.

The mother of Doctor Daniel R. Brower, whose sketch appears on page 380, was Ann Billop Farmer. She was born on the east bank of the Schuylkill, on the farm known during the Revolutionary war as Fatlands. She was a daughter of Robert Adolph Farmer, who was born April 28, 1762. He married Margaretta Pawling (who was born November 5, 1773) March 25, 1792. Their children were: Elizabeth Mary Farmer, born 1792; John Pawling, born 1795; Catharine Louisa, born 1797; Ann Billop, born 1800; James Fisher, born 1802; Margaretta, born 1804. Her next preceeding ancestor was Major-General Robert Farmer, of the British army. His children were: the aforesaid Robert Adolph Farmer; Catharine, Elizabeth, and Ann.

These descendants date their ancestry from Joseph Farmar, of the county of Cork, through a younger son of the family of Fermor, of Easton, Weston county, Northampton, England, who was deprived of his estates in 1641, and forced to seek an asylum in England; he married the eldest daughter of Anthony Gamble, Esq. Among other children, he had a son John, who settled at Youghall, and his son, George Farmar, was of the royal navy, and while commanding H. M. ship *Quebec*, off Ushant in 1779, came up with and closely engaged *La Survilante*, a French frigate of greatly superior force. The contest on both sides was desperate, and Captain Farmar displayed such gallantry and intrepidity that he continued the engagement until his ship accidentally took fire, was blown into the air together with her brave captain. His children were: George, William, John, Henry and Charlotte, who married Count Emanuel de la Barthe. The son William was created a baronet for the meritorious services of his father; George and Richard Farmar, second baronet, and Sir Richard Henry Kenwick, the fifth and present baronet of Mt. Pleasant county, Sussex. It is through this illustrious lineage that the maternal ancestry of Dr. Brower, by his mother, Anna Billop Brower, nee Farmer, comes.

PHILIP Y. EISENBERG, M. D., one of Norristown's leading and well known physicians, is a direct descendant of German ancestry, though for the past four generations the family antecedents have been residents of south-eastern Pennsylvania. His great-great-grandfather Eisenberg is believed to have emigrated from Saxony to America early in the eighteenth century. His grandfather, Lawrence Eisenberg, was born and raised a few miles north of The Trappe, Montgomery county, and lived there all his life upon his farm. At his death he was buried in the churchyard at Douglassville, Berks county, Pennsylvania. He married a Miss Jones, and they became the parents of a large family of children, among whom was Samuel, the father of the subject of this sketch. The latter (Samuel) was born in May, 1806, and upon growing to manhood followed his father's occupation. Later in life he became an extensive dealer in hay, purchasing it in large quantities and shipping it to the city markets. Samuel Eisenberg was a thrifty, industrious and broad-minded man with excellent judgment, and was held in high esteem by all who knew him. For many years he was a member of St. Luke's German Reformed church at The Trappe, but later in life he identified himself with the German Baptist church. In 1829 he married Lydia Yerger, daughter of David Yerger, a well-to-do farmer in Limerick township, and was the father of seven children: Elizabeth, wife of Frederick Baker; Catharine, widow of Jesse Mester; Frederick, now deceased, but formerly a prosperous lumber merchant of Bridgeport; John and David, both resident of Philadelphia; Samuel, named after his father, an energetic, pushing produce dealer and proprietor of a creamery in Limerick township; and last, Philip Y., the subject of this biographical sketch. Samuel Eisenberg, sr., died August 10, 1861, at the age of fifty-five years and was survived by his widow and seven children. The latter had all attained their majority and married except Samuel and Philip at the time of their father's death. The completion of

O. J. Eisenberg.

their education and moral training fell upon their mother, a most estimable woman. She was for many years a member of the St. Augustus Lutheran church, Trappe, and lived to the age of seventy years and died in April, 1873.

P. Y. Eisenberg, M. D., was born on his father's farm near Fairview, Montgomery county, January 21, 1847. His early education was obtained in the public schools until his fifteenth year, when he attended an academy at North Wales, then known as the North Wales Institute, for two terms. It was during his attendance at this school that General Robert Lee invaded Pennsylvania. Governor Curtin made an urgent call for more troops to meet the emergency. The student dropped his books and enlisted in one of the first emergency regiments organized, commanded by Colonel Charles Albright, of Mauch Chunk and Lieutenant-Colonel Edward Schall, of Norristown. Having served the period of his enlistment, he returned to his studies, and having taught school for four years, Dr. Eisenberg entered the Pennsylvania State Normal school at Millersville, Lancaster county, Pennsylvania. At that time Dr. Edward Brooks, now superintendent of the schools of Philadelphia, was principal of that popular and well-known institution. After graduating in 1869, he was at once elected a member of the faculty. His duties were those of professor of vocal music and assistant to the chair of Latin language. After filling this dual position for two years and having in the meantime contemplated and entered upon the study of medicine, he selected Dr. Louis W. Read, surgeon-general of the National Guard of Pennsylvania, as his preceptor. After diligently pursuing his studies at Bellevue Hospital Medical college, New York, and at the medical department of the University of Pennsylvania, he graduated from the latter institution in March, 1873. Dr. Eisenberg at once opened an office in Norristown, where he has been in active practice for the past twenty-two years. He has served as coroner's physician of Montgomery county for three years, and during President Harrison's administration he was secretary of the board of examining surgeons for pensions at Norristown. He was an active member of the board of health of Norristown for five years. He has always taken great interest in the County Medical society, of which he is a member, and was its president in 1888. He is likewise a member of the State and National Medical associations. Though always a very busy man in his profession, Dr. Eisenberg has found time to demonstrate his public spirit and enterprise in his desire that Norristown should have facilities for caring for the sick and injured. In December, 1888, as a member of the board of trade, he offered a resolution creating a committee to formulate a plan for the establishment of a hospital and he himself was made chairman. Having able colleagues to assist him in this most praiseworthy object, the scheme soon assumed tangible shape and the institution now known as Charity hospital is in a flourishing condition, on a solid financial basis, and an honor to the town. Dr. Eisenberg is one of the staff of surgeons to the hospital, as well as a member of the board of directors. The doctor, in all his efforts to create a sentiment in favor of this noble charity had a zealous and energetic supporter in Mrs. Eisenberg, who as president of the Women's Auxiliary, has rendered valuable service towards the maintenance of the institution. It was she who

suggested and perfected the plan of systematic contributions by churches each month. By this plan each denomination has its own particular month of the year in which all the churches of that denomination are expected to lift contributions toward the maintenance of the hospital. For a number of years Dr. Eisenberg has taken the deepest interest in fraternal societies. He has been a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen since 1879. As a charter member of Lynwood Lodge and as its medical examiner he aided materially in its organization and in the perpetuation of the principles of protection on the lodge system in Norristown. In April, 1893, he was appointed Grand Medical Examiner of the Jurisdiction of Pennsylvania and West Virginia, and in October following he was elected for a term of two years. He has since been elected to another term. Dr. Eisenberg is also a member of the Independent Order Heptasophs, and for the present term is chairman of the board of trustees. He is likewise a member of the Order of Sparta, the Royal Arcanum, the American Legion of Honor, and the Order of the American Union. Being a true lover of nature, Dr. Eisenberg found diversion for a number of years studying the flora of the Schuylkill Valley. While on his drives to visit the sick he did not fail to gather and study each new flower, shrub or tree that met his gaze, and the result of his botanical work is found in Colonel Theodore W. Bean's History of Montgomery County.

On June 11, 1874, Dr. Eisenberg married Harriet Dawes, eldest daughter of the late John L. Dawes, of Allegheny, Pa.

Mrs. Eisenberg's father was born in Nottingham, England, 1820, and was the son of a lace manufacturer. Mr. Dawes came to this country in 1844 and located in Pittsburg, and soon became a prominent and prosperous merchant of that city.

Mrs. Dr. Eisenberg's mother, Charlotte League, is a direct descendant of old Virginia families on both sides, dating as far back as 1633. The Sanfords on the maternal and the Stones on the paternal sides were all identified with early Colonial and Revolutionary times. Mrs. Eisenberg is a member of Valley Forge Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Dr. and Mrs. Eisenberg's family consists of two sons, John Lawrence, aged eighteen years, and Edward Norman, aged sixteen years. The former, after having completed his studies and graduated from the Norristown High school, entered the biological department of the University of Pennsylvania and took a course there. He has now entered upon a four-year course in medicine in the same institution. Edward, the second son, is a member of the graduating class of the Norristown High school.

THE LONGAKER FAMILY.—Jacob Longenecker, the progenitor of those of Montgomery county, whose sketches are noted in this volume, landed in America on the 28th day of August, 1733, arriving on the ship *Hope of London* from Rotterdam, last from Cowes. In the same vessel came Ulrich Longenecker, and Ulrich jr. The two latter settled in Rapho township, Lancaster county, and May 1, 1794, the executors of Ulrich sr., conveyed to Ulrich Longenecker, a farm of one hundred and seventeen acres. Jacob settled near Parker Ford in Coventry township, Chester county. From 1727 to 1733, there came besides these three, John, Daniel, Christian and David Longenecker. Daniel was the father of John, and

he settled at Mingo, on the banks of the Schuylkill river, near what is called Black Rock, above Phoenixville, purchasing two hundred and forty acres on May 1, 1733, and adjoining this tract in 1735, John bought two hundred and fifty acres of land, most of which now constitutes the "Poor-House Farm," which, at the death of John, descended to his son Daniel, who, in 1800, conveyed to his uncle Abraham Gotwaltz, and Abraham Gotwaltz in 1807, conveyed to the directors of the poor, etc., of Montgomery county.

Christian settled in Rapho township, Lancaster county, purchasing September 28, 1746, ninety-four acres of land, and on February 23, 1775, in the same township, made another purchase of two hundred and four acres, and up to 1791, three tracts, together being five hundred and sixteen acres in Donegal township, and three more tracts in Rapho, being two hundred and eight acres, were purchased. From this ancestry came Hon. J. M. Longenecker, of Chicago.

David Longenecker, June 8, 1751, purchased from Christian Naff (or Neave) and wife, one hundred and twenty-five acres along the Peque creek; and in 1770 David Longenecker, sr., granted to David Longenecker, jr., one hundred and fifty acres in Lampeter township, and July 23, 1770, Peter Beller granted to him two hundred and fifty acres in Strassburg township, Lancaster county; and from this ancestry comes the Hon. J. H. Longenecker, whose sketch is inserted on page 357. These families are the progenitors of many descendants in this and other States found under the name of Longenecker, Longnecker, Longaker and Longacre. They came to America from Switzerland, but, it is traditionary in the family of Jacob, that they went from France to Switzerland. The French name is Longacre, and in 1580, owing to the continued persecution of the Huguenots, they escaped to Switzerland, and living in the Cantons bordering on Lake Constance, amongst the Germans. The name was Germanized and became Lodgenaecker or Longenecker, as now rendered by some of the descendants of this county. The exact kinship of those who came to this country from 1727 to 1733 (and none are known to have come earlier or later) is not known; but as all agree in coming from Switzerland, it is probable that they were of the same blood.

Hon. Joel Longenecker, of Chicago.—Edwin A. Longenecker, the father of Joel, was born April 12, 1807, in Lancaster county, Penna., and removed to Crawford county, Illinois, in the early part of his manhood. He died February 16, 1894. There were six sons and two daughters. All six were enlisted in the Union army. Henry, the oldest was killed in battle, and Michael, the youngest, died in the army.

Joel M. was born in Crawford county, Illinois, January 12, 1847, educated at Robinson, Illinois; taught school for two terms; read law at Robinson, and was admitted to the bar in 1870. He was elected justice of the peace two months after he became of age and while he was reading law. Soon after he began practice, settling at Olney, he was elected city attorney, and in 1876, State's attorney of Richland county. In 1881 he removed to Chicago, Cook county, and in 1887 he was elected State's attorney for that county, to fill an unexpired term. In 1888 he was elected again for a term of four years. In 1892 he declined a nomination for re-election, and went into private practice. During his official term, some very important criminal cases were tried, attracting attention throughout the country.

The prosecution known as the Cronin case was tried by him, and the disclosures made, caused the people everywhere to take great interest in the trial. One hundred days were consumed in its actual trial. He is one of the leading members of the Chicago bar, with a reputation throughout the Union for his last and great ability. He was married to Florence Fitch in 1870; and has two boys and two girls living; two other children died.

John (the son of Daniel, who settled at Mingo) died in 1745, leaving to survive him, his widow, Susanna; a son, Daniel; and three daughters. Elizabeth, Catharine and Sarah, who with their husbands, joined a deed to their brother Daniel, as cited *infra*. Daniel (the first), who settled at Mingo, died sometime prior to 1756, as of that date his children—Elizabeth, wife of Jacob High; Ann, wife of Philip High; Mary, wife of Valentine Clemen; Magdalena, wife of John Buckwalter; Jacob, jr.; and Susanna, widow of John and then wife of Jacob, and the children of John, to wit: Daniel and his wife Elizabeth, and daughters, Elizabeth, wife of Nicholas Christman; Catharine, wife of Jacob Bechtel; and Sarah, wife of John Cochenour,—granted the farm at Mingo to David, the eldest son. This David, from about 1750 to 1776, was a Mennonite preacher at the Schuylkill Meeting. He died in 1776, leaving a son David, other sons and daughters, whose descendants are quite numerous in this and adjoining counties. His son John became a Mennonite preacher in 1772, and supplied the congregation called the Rhodes Mennonite meeting in Coventry township. Mary, a daughter of David, first married Mr. Maris, and being left a widow, she married Mathias Pennypacker, the grandfather of Judge Pennypacker of Philadelphia, and their only child, Sarah, married William Walker, of Chester Valley.

In 1746 Jacob Longenecker married Susanna, the widow of John. They were the grandparents of the Hon. Henry Longaker: he acquired about four hundred and fifty acres of land in Coventry township, and a farm of one hundred and seventy-four acres near Pawling's Bridge, on the east bank of the Schuylkill, and later on known as the George Heilig (now Highley) property. During the wintering of the army of General George Washington at Valley Forge, these farmers plentifully supplied wood and farm products to the army, and flour, provender, etc., were liberally furnished by the mill on the farm of Daniel, at Mingo.

These pioneers were strong, sturdy and hardy people, not only farmers, but artisans. Some were blacksmiths, carpenters, weavers, millers and shoemakers and their children of the first generation were mechanics also, but carpentry seemed to be the favorite trade. From the third generation hence they became merchants, traders, doctors, lawyers, clergymen and other pursuits, so that some lines of descent have almost entirely abandoned the farms. From their early settlement they had well established schools and menonite churches, and were progressive educationally wherever they settled, and amongst the prosperous and leading men of their localities, and in the present century many of them were prominent and successful in public affairs, holding many prominent official positions.

Jacob and Susanna Longenecker had two sons, Jacob and Peter, and five daughters, Salome, wife of Jacob Bliem, Mary of Wisler, Esther of Henry Rhodes, Magdalene of Jacob Ruth (now Root), Susanna of John Brower. All these had children and their

descendants are numerous in this and adjoining counties.

Pursuing the lineage of Hon Henry Longaker, his father, Jacob, married Catharine Detwiler, and by this union the children were: John, Jacob, Peter, Hannah, wife of James Miller; Susanna, of Peter Wagonseller; Abraham, Isaac, Henry, Joseph, Samuel and Catharine, wife of Henry Surnehart. The father of these children died in 1806. Five of them were in their minority, and their mother died in 1817. Of the sons only three married: Peter, Henry and Isaac.

Peter Longaker was born in Chester county, Pa., March 14, 1786, and died November 1, 1866. He married Hannah, daughter of George and Mary Boyer, of Churchville, Berks county. She died in her 90th year. Their children were: Rufus B., Mary (Mrs Abram Kohl), Louisa (Mrs Sebastian Kohl), Erveline, John B., and Frances Elmira, who died in childhood. Rufus B. was born April 6, 1816. At the age of sixteen he became a pupil of the Trappe Institute, and completing his studies taught in the schools of Berks county two years. For ten years he was engaged in general merchandizing at a store at Crooked Hill until 1851. Subsequently he formed a co-partnership with Lesher Van Buskirk, and was engaged in business from 1862 until within a few years of his death. He was an influential Democrat. In 1851 he was elected recorder of deeds, in 1863 elected county treasurer, a member three years of the council of the borough of Pottstown and enjoyed other minor offices in private corporations. He was a devout member of the Trinity Reformed church of Pottstown. He is the father of Hon. Montgomery S. and Louis C., whose lives are noted in this volume. His other children are: Hannah E. (Mrs. Mathias Geist), Horace S., and Mary (Mrs. William H. Thomas).

LOUIS CASS LONGAKER. He is the son of Rufus B. He was born at Pottstown, February 14, 1856, was educated in the public schools of that borough. He is a well formed, handsome man, of pleasing personal appearance, about five feet, eleven inches, well proportioned, weighing about 165 pounds, brown gray eyes, with hair almost black. In the spring of 1877 he started business pursuits in the office of I. Beam & Son, Parker's Landing, Armstrong county, Pa., making gauge tables of oil tanks, continuing with them until the winter of 1878. In the spring of 1879 he entered the gauging department of the United Pipe Line company (a branch of the Standard), measuring and computing oil tanks. In the fall of 1880 he went into the leak keeping department, taking charge of the over and short leaks. In July 1, 1895, he was put in charge of the running of oil in the Bradford district, and still continues in it. September 5, 1883, he married Gertrude P. Robinson, of Brooklyn, N. Y. (She was born July 1, 1864.) By this marriage the children are: Elizabeth L., born October 13, 1884, and Harold Robinson, born September 25, 1886.

Henry and Isaac were twin brothers. Isaac married Catharine Diehl of Plymouth township, and had three children, Daniel, Francis and Isaac. Daniel married Elizabeth Boyer, a daughter of George Boyer. Their children were: Catharine, who died when about sixteen years old; Annie, George W., married and living in Norristown; Ella, wife of Rev. L. K. Evans, of Pottstown; Bertha, wife of Rev D. W. Moore; Eliza, wife of C. Howard Harry, a prominent dentist;

Clara Bell, wife of Ellwood Rhodes; Sarah, deceased, and unmarried, and Mary and Daniel, deceased. Daniel Longaker for a period of forty years was one of the prominent business men of Norristown, carrying successfully a large grocery store and building many houses to employ his capital. His biography appears in the local histories of Montgomery, published by the late M. Auge and Col. Theodore W. Bean, so that further comment would be unnecessary.

Isaac Longaker was a farmer for many years in this county, but removed to Philadelphia some ten years before his death. He had a large family of children, most of whom are married and living in Philadelphia. Francis settled in Louisville, Kentucky, married and has a large family, and is still living. Hon. Henry Longaker married Catharine Brower. Their children are: Price, born October, 1816, died October, 10, 1826; John, born February 9, 1818, died November 25, 1892; Frances, born December 7, 1819, unmarried; Albert, born May 4, 1821, died February 25, 1895; James, born March 4, 1823, died August 19, 1846; Sarah Ann, born June 23, 1825, wife of Aaron Fretz; Abraham Brower and Elizabeth, born April 21, 1828, and Elizabeth died May 7, 1828; Henry D., born July 15, 1829, died October 3, 1894; Davis, born December 2, 1833, and Mary Jane, March 23, 1836, wife of Morris L. Kirk.

John Longaker left to survive him three sons, who are married and living. Albert left four children: Frances, wife of William Shoemaker; Sarah, wife of Henry Conrad, a prominent, influential and successful lawyer of Wilmington, Del., having two children, Edith and Rachael; Louise and Albert Edwin, a young, prominent and successful attorney-at-law of the Norristown bar.

Hon. A. Brower Longaker married, the 8th of December, A. D. 1859, Mary Moore, the second daughter of William H. and Mary Knorr Slingluff. They have three children: Leila, wife of H. K. Kurtz, (who is a son of W. Wesley Kurtz, the banker of Philadelphia), who, with three children, Leila, Wesley W. and Henry, reside at Coatesville, Pa., interested in and conducting the Valley Iron works; Rosalie and Norris S. The biography of A. Brower Longaker is fully noted on page 450, et seq.

Doctor Henry D. Longaker was for many years a prominent physician in Philadelphia, some ten years at Allentown and the last ten years of his life at Seattle, Washington. He married Mary A. Young, of Bethlehem, Pa., who was a doctor of skill and prominence. Doctor Longaker's professional life was chiefly devoted to the treatment of chronic diseases, his great specialty being cancers and tumors. In 1884 he established a hospital for special treatment of chronic cases at Seattle, and ably assisted by his wife, as many as thirty to fifty patients were under treatment at one time. Ten years of his early professional life, from 1856 to 1866, were spent upon the Pacific slope, generally as physician to the gold mining camps. He was along the Columbia river, the Snake river in the Nez-Perges at Seattle and other parts of Washington, and during that time he located and purchased a few lots of land in the projected town of Seattle, which in 1884 he improved to great advantage by erecting his hospital thereon. His death occurred in October, 1894, that of his wife preceding his some five years. Two minor children, Frances and Mary A., survive their parents, and are at school at Kent, near Seattle, cared for by Mrs. H. B. Jeffries, an intimate friend of the family.

Davis Longaker is married and has a large family of children. He is and has been for the last twenty-five years one of the prominent and prosperous business men of Lansdale. The married daughters of Henry Longaker have children. Some of whom are married and others residing with their parents. Four of the sons, James, A. Brower, Henry D. and Davis, are stalwart, well-developed men, in height about six feet and, true types in this respect of their paternal uncles. Peter and Susanna Wagonseller lived upon a farm of about 100 acres in Lower Providence township, Montgomery county, Pa., adjoining or near to his father-in-law, Jacob Longaker. The wife survived the husband many years, and both are buried in the graveyard of the Old Lutheran Church at the Trappe. The wife died in her eighty-second year. She was a lady of uncommon information, and especially of the events which had occurred in her own family and ancestors, and her contemporary "Aunt Susie" Schantz, who was a daughter of Esther (Longaker) Rhodes, would tell of the hardships their ancestry had endured during the Revolutionary war, and how the army lying at Valley Forge were supplied with farm produce, flour mill feed, provender, etc., and how this ancestry had suffered as Huguenots before they emigrated to Switzerland. Mr. Schantz, in the beginning of this century, rode alone on horseback on three different occasions, going from The Trappe to visit relatives in Lower Canada and returning. They would also relate how their mothers and they, later on, rode on horseback to market their products in Philadelphia, going one day and returning the next. The children and the posterity of the Wagonseller family form an interesting group. The sons were Jacob, Benjamin, Joshua, John, Peter and William F., and the daughters Catharine and Hannah. The daughters married Chain brothers, Matthew and Hamilton, who removed to Ohio, and died there, leaving descendants. Jacob was a celebrated doctor, he settled at Selin's Grove, Union county, Pa., and married Mary Richter. He was a member of the State Senate in 1840, and died while serving his first term. He had a large family, two of his sons, Dr. Peter Richter and Dr. Benjamin F. became notable physicians. The former was a very eminent physician and was murdered in 1873 by a drunken worthless fellow, from whose stabs he died in twenty-three hours from the time of their infliction. His death was a great loss to the community, which was outraged by his murder. Doctor B. F. is in full practice, and is a physician and surgeon of high rank. He served as a surgeon in the Union army, in 139th Pennsylvania regiment, three years' service; was promoted February 13, 1863, to be surgeon of 158th regiment, nine months' service, and September 1, 1864, was mustered in again as surgeon of the 201st regiment, one year's service.

Benjamin and John settled near Columbus, O., where some of their posterity are still living. Joshua became a merchant at Pekin, Ill., and did a very large business. He married Harriet Rupert, where some of their descendants now reside. William F. married Amelia Bergstresser, of Selin's Grove, and for many years and up to the time of his death he was largely engaged in merchandizing. He was for two terms a member of the House of Representatives of Pennsylvania, in the years 1859 and 18[illegible]. He died on August 1[illegible], 1876, on his return from a visit to the "Centennial." A number of children survive him. Martin L., promoted from sergeant January 1, 1873, to

Second Lieutent, Company F, 131st Pennsylvania regiment, nine months' service. He is an active, leading and efficient Grand Army member, and very popularly known throughout the State.

James and (Hannah Longaker) Miller, after their marriage, May 13, 1810, lived at the Trappe. He was a tailor and was born near Evansburg August 25, 1784. Two children, Abraham and Hannah, were of this marriage, and the wife died after the birth of this daughter. Mr. Miller married twice after this. Some time before his death he lived in Philadelphia, and was buried at The Trappe with his wife. He was a life long member of the Lutheran Church. His daughter Hannah married Abraham B. Landis, a son of John and Mary Beitler Landis, born October 26, 1808, died July 3, 1890. His wife was born February 1, 1816, died July 29, 1851. Mr. Landis carried on farming in Upper Providence, near Royersford, from about 1843 to 1866, when he removed to Pottstown and retired from business. In 1879 he had his home with his cousin, Hannah Beitler, near Howelville, Chester county.

JAMES M. LANDIS is a son of this ancestry. He was born Nov. 19, 1842, near Gratersford, his father removing soon thereafter to Royersford. In boyhood he obtained a common school education, and had one year's schooling at Washington Hall, Trappe; was employed as station agent at Royersford from 1860 to 1864, in the latter year the freight claim office of the Reading Railroad company in Reading; in 1868 he became traveling auditor, and in 1871 chief clerk in the general manager's office and the vice president's office at the central offices of the Reading company. September 21, 1868, he was married to Emma Good in Reading. She was born in Lebanon county. The children were Bertha, Herbert, Charles, Edward, Arthur and George, but only Bertha, Edward and George are living, the others dying in infancy. Mr. Landis is the true type of his ancestry, and by sheer force of will, pluck, persistency, and above all unswerving fidelity and integrity has gradually risen to a high rank in the corporation which he has served so well.

Henry and Catharine (Longaker) Swinehart soon after their marriage settled in the eastern part of Ohio, near the Pennsylvania border, and almost directly west of Mercer county. They are dead, but leave children and grandchildren in that locality to survive them.

None of the remaining sons of Jacob and Catharine (Detwiler) Longaker married, but one by one, within a few years after attaining their majority, travelled to other parts of this union. Abraham was a doctor, and settled at Natchez, where he died while a young man. Jacob had travelled south and southwest, and after awhile, returning, went to Canada and soon after died there.

John, Samuel and Joseph going south and west, after a few years of absence ceased all correspondence with the other members of the family, and long since have departed this life unknown to their kindred. They were stalwart, athletic, vigorous men, of great vitality and activity, ranging from five feet ten inches to six feet in height, with no superfluous flesh, but the pastoral life of their ancestry had no charm for them. Some were excellent artisans, and others were born travellers seeking new fields of occupation. Those who married and lived within the knowledge of their

people have left an illustrous posterity surpassed, if at all, only by a few of their day and generation.

FRANKLIN T. BEERER, a popular Democrat of Norristown, and who has served continuously over thirty years in appointive and elective county official positions, is a son of Joseph and Elizabeth (Klein) Beerer, and was born in Upper Hanover township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, May 21, 1836. He received his education in Treemount seminary, conducted by the celebrated Rev. Samuel Aaron, and Elmwood institute, taught by Rev. J. R. Kooken and Rev. G. Deering Wolf at Norristown, Pa., and then went to Philadelphia where he spent eight years in the drug business, (two years thereof as proprietor of the drug store at Buttonwood, 11th and Ridge Road). At the end of that time he was appointed an inspector in the United States custom house at Philadelphia, and detailed as liquor inspector, and served from 1857 to 1861. On May 18, 1861 he enlisted in Company C, Ninteenth Pennsylvania Volunteers at Philadelphia until its term expired, August 29, 1861. He then re-enlisted as a corporal of Company B, Nineteenth Pennsylvania Infantry Volunteers, Col. Peter Lyle commanding regiment, and served until December 10, 1862, when he was discharged for disability from wonnds at Convalescent camp, Fort McHenry, Baltimore, Md. He participated in the engagements of Cedar Mountain, Rappahannock Station, Thoroughfare Gap, Second Bull Run, Chantilley, South Mountain and Antietam, in which last fierce contest he was shot through the left knee, left elbow, contused wound in left shoulder by a piece of shell and nine other slight flesh wounds. Returning from the army to Norristown, Pa., Mr Beerer was engaged for several years in the manufacture of cigars extensively with ex-Judge A. Brower Longaker, and then turned his attention to conveyancing, which he still follows to some extent. He became a pension attorney in 1889 and has had good success in prosecuting claims before the bureau of pensions at Washington, D. C., being thoroughly conversant with all the details of his line of work. Mr Beerer is a Democrat of the Jeffersonian school, and being popular has always had a large personal following which has often secured him an election when his party was in the minority.

On October 1, 1854, Mr Beerer married Clara Clymer, a daughter of Joseph Clymer, of Washington township, Berks county, Pa. Three children were born to their union. Mary died in infancy; Edward Theodore Knox died at the age of three years; and Thomas Henry died January 1, 1882, aged twenty-three years. His said wife died August 8, 1860, aged 25 years, and on January 16, 1866, Mr Beerer wedded Mary Louise Greger, a daughter of Col. Charles Greger, ex-county commissioner of Montgomery county, by which marriage he has two children, Charles Montgomery, employed by the Williamsport *Sun*, and Flora Elizabeth, intermarried with William D. Lukens, a carpenter and builder of Whitpain township.

Franklin T. Beerer connected himself with the Trinity Lutheran church at Norristown, Pa.; is a member of Charity lodge, No. 190, F. and A. M.; Norristown chapter, No. 190, R. A. M., and Hutchinson commandery, Knights Templar, of which he is a past-eminent commander; P. C. of

Pocahontas tribe of the Independent Order of Red Men (German), Zook post, No. 11, G. A. R., Encampment No. 96, U. V. Legion, and Lynwood lodge, No. 154, A. O. U. Workmen.

Mr. Beerer's official life began in 1865 as deputy county treasurer, afterwards serving as deputy register of wills, deputy sheriff, deputy recorder, deputy prothonotary, prison inspector and secretary of board, elected as clerk of the courts of Montgomery county in 1875, justice of the peace in 1879, and is now serving his third term as one of the county auditors of Montgomery county. He is regarded as the best acquainted man in the county with the routine of business in the different county offices.

Joseph Beerer's name, originally spelled Buhrer, was born near Strasburg, September 17, 1806, in what was then the French province of Alsace. He came with his parents and family to Philadelphia in 1812 and was indentured to one Matthias Ritter, of Oley, Berks county, Pa, with whom he stayed until he was twenty years of age and learned the trade of tanner. He then took charge of the tannery of Charles Hillegas at Gerysville, Bucks county, Pa. In 1836 he purchased a farm from his father-in-law in Upper Hanover township, which he tilled in connection with the tannery for some years. He then sold the farm to engage in the general mercantile business at a place which he named Tylersport in honor of President Tyler. In 1850 he sold out his store at Tylersport and removed to Norriton township, Montgomery county, where he purchased a farm from Robert Stinson, which he disposed of four years later in order to become a resident of Norristown, where he engaged in the coal business, and in 1857 purchased the Pennsylvania Farmers hotel in Norristown, now known as the Hartranft house, which he conducted to April 17, 1872. He then sold the hotel and purchased a residence at the corner of Main and Stanbridge streets, now owned by the Hon. Irving P. Wanger. He died on the 22nd day of May 1893, at the residence of his son, Alfred, on Noble street, Norristown. Joseph Beerer was a Jackson Democrat and served as the first postmaster at Tylersport. He was commissioned as captain of the United Rifle Rangers, a volunteer company attached to the Jackson Volunteer battallion by Governor Porter on June 6, 1840, and offered the services of the company during the Buckshot war and the Philadelphia riots in 1844, but they were not needed. He was elected as a justice of the peace of Upper Salford township in 1845, but did not take out his commission. He was elected jury commissioner in 1863 and county treasurer in 1865. He also served for a number of years as one of the prison inspectors and also as school director of Upper Salford township.

On December 1, 1833, he was married to Elizabeth Klein, a daughter of Michael Klein, of Upper Hanover township. He was the father of ten children, four sons and six daughters, all of whom, but two, Louis Klein and Dianna M., who was intermarried with Hon M. S. Longaker, survive him. His wife died February 29, 1888. They are both buried in the Montgomery cemetery at Norristown, Pa.

Capt. Beerer was a very active business man and an efficient and resolute public official.

EDWARD S. MURRAY, proprietor of the extensive Merion Roller Process Flouring mills, is a son of Patrick and Elizabeth (Smith) Murray, and was born

J. K. Barr

in Upper Merion township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, October 31, 1866. Patrick Murray is a native of Longford, Ireland, and at fourteen years of age came near to Swedeland, in Upper Merion township, where he worked for some time in the iron mills of Swedesburg. He purchased land there which he sold in 1870 to buy the Morgan Egbert property in Lower Merion township, on which he still resides. He has a large dairy and is a very successful farmer. He is a Democrat and Catholic, and when the late Civil war commenced he enlisted and served with credit. He married Elizabeth Smith, and to them were born five children, three sons and two daughters: Thomas E., assisting his father on the farm and in the dairy; Margaret T.; John J., a farmer; Edward S.; and Elizabeth F.

Edward S. Murray was reared in Upper and Lower Merion townships, and after receiving his education in the Gladwyn public schools, entered Bryant & Stratton's business college, from which he was graduated in 1884. He then entered the employ of William Simpson & Son as a clerk in their Norristown Wyoming woolen and cotton mills, of which he soon became assistant manager. At the end of five years he left the mills to purchase his present Merion roller process flouring mills on Mill creek from Evan G. Jones. He immediately enlarged, remodeled and rebuilt these mills, which he has equipped with the latest and most improved machinery. His flour has attained quite a reputation, and he supplies Ardmore, Haverford, and Bryn Mawr, and other towns with his best brands, besides having a steady demand from the leading families of the surrounding country. Mr. Murray also deals largely in western grain, and is an extensive shipper in flour, grain and feed. In March, 1895, he bought a woolen mill, but soon disposed of it to Samuel L. Robinson, who immediately thereafter sold it to Thomas H. Clegg and W. T. Tilden.

In his special line of manufacturing, Mr. Murray has met with unusual success. His mill, in which he takes a most justifiable pride, has a large capacity. His business is extensive and lucrative, and to its every detail he gives the closest attention, thereby giving assurance of future prosperity. Mr. Murray is a Republican in politics, and has for several years been a member of the Catholic church.

JAMES R. CARE, M. D., who has been in the active practice of his profession at Worcester, Pennsylvania, since 1886, is a son of Henry and Margaret (Roberts) Care, and was born in Union township, Berks county, Pennsylvania, March 22, 1865. Henry Care was also a native of Berks county, and died in April, 1892. He was a railroad engineer in early life, and subsequently engaged in farming, which latter occupation he pursued in his native county up to the time of his death. He was twice married, and by his first wife had three children, one son and two daughters: Anna, wife of John Hart; Catharine; and David. After the death of his first wife, Mr. Care wedded Margaret Roberts, daughter of James Roberts, of the same place. By this second marriage two children were born, both sons: Dr. James R. and Thomas.

Dr. James R. Care attended the public schools of his native township and then entered Amityville seminary, located at Amity, Berks county, from which institution he was graduated in the class of 1880.

During his vacations while attending the seminary, he employed his time in teaching and so continued until the completion of his academic course. After leaving the seminary he was variously engaged until 1883, when he commenced reading medicine under the preceptorship of Dr. B. F. Bunn, of Birdsboro, Berks county, in whose office he remained until 1884. In the last named year he entered Jefferson Medical college, Philadelphia, and was duly graduated in 1886. After graduation he removed to Center Point, Montgomery county, and formed a professional partnership with Dr. G. K. Meschter, which remained in force until 1892, when, Dr. Meschter retiring, he succeeded to their combined practice. He then continued an individual practice for two years. At the end of this time his practice had increased to such an extent, and the professional demands made upon him were so great that he admitted Dr. Elmer G. Kriebel into a new partnership under the firm name of Drs. Care & Kriebel. Dr. Care, while a general practitioner from the nature of his location, is yet a skilled specialist in diseases of the eye, ear and throat. He stands in the front rank of his profession in the county and is a valued citizen, as well as a man of high professional attainments. Dr. Care is a member of the Montgomery County Medical society, the Lehigh Valley, and the Pennsylvania State Medical association. Politically, he is a supporter of the Republican party and has been for some years a member of the Schwenkfelder church at Worcester. He is a man of attainment and usefulness beyond the field of his profession and takes a marked interest in civic problems and the complex relations of labor and capital. He is a member of the Academy of Political and Social Sciences, the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, and other learned associations.

On April 24, 1888, Dr. Care was united in marriage with Ella Knabb, whose father, Captain George W. Knabb, is a native and resident of Birdsborough, Berks county, this State. To Dr. and Mrs. Care have been born three children: Virginia; Catharine, deceased; and Margaret.

PROF. SAMUEL U. BRUNNER, the founder and principal of North Wales academy and school of business, is a son of Frederick and Lydia (Umstead) Brunner, and was born in Worcester township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, April 6, 1842. (For ancestral history see sketch of Henry U. Brunner, page 527 of this work). He was reared in Worcester township, where he attended the public schools and then taught some time, after which he entered Washington Hall Collegiate institute at Trappe, and took the course of that educational institution. Leaving Trappe, he entered Eastman's Business college at Poughkeepsie, New York, from which well known commercial institution he was graduated at the end of only thirteen weeks' study. He then became book-keeper in the Philadelphia office of the Grover & Baker Sewing Machine company, and remained there up to 1866. In that year he concluded to resume teaching, in which he has been successful and in which he had always taken a deep interest. He therefore taught one year at Jenkintown, and then concluded to put in operation his long cherished design of opening a first class academy and connecting it with a practical and efficient business school. In 1867 he organized such an institution at Kulpsville,

S. U. Brunner,

and soon demonstrated the feasibilty of the idea and its practical value as a factor in a valuable home education. After four years of successful teaching, he removed in April, 1871, to North Wales as a more favorable center for the full development of his idea, and founded the North Wales academy and school of business. Each succeeding year has added to its efficiency and the number of pupils in attendance, until to-day it stands as one of the foremost institutions of its kind in the State. Professor Brunner also publishes a paper in connection with his institution called *The Academy Acorn*, which is devoted to school life and the general improvement of the pupils. He is a Democrat, and a member and elder of the Lutheran church, in which he has served for several years as secretary of the church council. He is also a member of Washington Camp, Patriotic Order Sons of America.

On October 19, 1869, Professor Brunner was united in marriage with Anna Mary Reiff. Their union has been blessed with two children, a son and a daughter: Mary R., and J. Reiff.

JOHN WOOD, JR., a large iron worker of Conshohocken, this county, was born May 24, 1847, at Conshohocken, this county, and is the son of Hon. John and Elizabeth K. (Wells) Wood. His mental training and discipline was obtained in Treemount seminary of Norristown, and Gregory academy of Philadelphia. Having determined upon pursuing a business career, he entered his father's iron mills at Conshohocken, where he remained until 1867, gaining, during this time, much useful practical knowledge of the iron-working art. That he was a young man of spirit and enterprise is evidenced by the fact that at the early age of twenty, or on May 1, 1867, he founded his present foundry, machine and boiler works. Not that the works as founded are to be compared with them as they now exist as to size and work turned out, but that from them, through expansion and the progress of the times, we have the present large and well equipped works. The factory is one hundred and twenty-five feet front by four hundred and fifty feet deep, and comprises the following departments, each under the supervision and direction of skilled specialists: machine department, pattern-making department, drafting department, boiler department, blacksmithing department and foundry department, all fitted up with the most improved machinery and well equipped to turn out the best product along these different lines. This mammoth establishment gives employment to not less than two hundred and fifty hands and is an enterprise that contributes much to the material prosperity of Conshohocken.

Mr. Wood is a Republican and a staunch believer in the great political policy of a protective tariff, and whilst he has always taken a commendable interest in the success of his party, yet has never aspired to office. He is always interested in any move which has for its object the promotion of the welfare of the borough of his nativity. He was one of the most active promoters of the Fidelity Building and Loan association of Conshohocken. This association is one of the most prosperous of its kind in the county and has done much to aid the laboring men of Conshohocken to secure homes, and in this way has contributed much to the substantial wealth of the community. He is one of the largest stockholders of the association.

Fraternally he is a member of the Union Republican club, and the Merchants' club of Philadelphia. Mr. Wood was appointed by Governor Hartranft, major in the National Guard of Pennsylvania, on the staff of General Batton and served in the railroad riots at Pittsburg in 1877, and in the Philadelphia railroad riots subsequently.

John Wood, jr., early manifested an unusual skill for mechanical pursuits, along which lines he has achieved an enviable success. Of quick perception, close observation and great executive ability, he gives that personal supervision to the different departments of the factory that has long since given it a reputation second to none of its class in this part of the State.

REV CLEMENT Z. WEISER, D. D. the only survivor of three sons, was born in Union (now Snyder) county, Pennsylvania, which was also the native place of his father, the late Dr. Daniel Weiser. He is the fourth in descent from the renowned Conrad Weiser. After the usual preparation he entered Franklin and Marshall college, from which he was graduated in 1850. Subsequent to his graduation he became tutor in German in his *alma mater*, and later became principal of the preparatory department, over which he presided for two years, the time of the removal of the college to Lancaster, Penna. Just twenty-five years after his graduation his college conferred upon him the degree of D. D. After the completion of his theological training, Mr. Weiser accepted a pastorate at his native place, of which church his father had formerly been pastor. He maintained his connection with this church up to the year 1855, when he was called to assist his father at the old Goshenhoppen church, Montgomery county, Pa., where he continued for a period of seventeen years, following in the footsteps of his father. Dr. Weiser has made few pastoral changes but has concentrated his efforts and consecrated his will to the upbuilding of the cause in but two localities. During his lifework he received frequent calls to other churches of prominence and vigor, but uniformly declined them in order to devote himself more potently to the charges already under his care. Apart from his zeal and earnestness in the direct work of the church, he has also been conspicuously identified with litterary and scholastic pursuits; he has been a valued contributor to various papers and magazines and has also published several books. Among the latter is his well known "Life of Conrad Weiser." He has also been a frequent lecturer and has in this way supported and extended the cause of the church and its auxiliary agencies. Dr. Weiser stands deservedly high in the councils of his church and by reason of his varied attainments, his broad scholarship and his undoubted devotion, is one of the leaders of his denomination. He is a member of the Montgomery County Historical society, and upon the occasion of the centennial anniversary of the county, was selected to deliver the chief oration. He was also formerly chaplain of the 6th regiment, National Guard of Pennsylvania.

In 1859 Dr. Weiser was joined in marriage with Louisa C., daughter of Judge I. Gutelius, of Mifflinburg, Union county, Pa. Their children consisted of three sons and one daughter, all of whom are now deceased.

At the present time Dr. Weiser is living in a well earned retirement at East Greenville, this county. He is a highly esteemed

C. L. Warren.

citizen, an eloquent speaker, imbued with true Christian charity, and reflects upon all with whom he comes in contact, the light of a pious and conscientious life.

REV. HENRY T. SPANGLER, D. D., the recently elected president of Ursinus college, Collegeville, Montgomery county, was born November 14, 1853, and is yet a young man. He was born at Myerstown, Lebanon county, Pennsylvania. He prepared for college, and carried his studies to the end of the Sophomore year at Palatinate college, Myerstown, and was graduated from Ursinus college in June, 1873, at the head of his class, the first sent out from the institution. After taking the course in theology at Ursinus, he was licensed as a minister of the Reformed church in June, 1875. The first two years of active life was spent by him in the editorial office of the *Christian World*, at Cincinnati, Ohio. He subsequently filled pastorates at Lancaster and Columbia, Ohio, and Landisburg, Pennsylvania. He was finally called to St. Luke's Reformed church, Trappe, Pennsylvania, in April, 1884, as the successor of the late Dr. Bomberger in the pastorate of that church. In June of the same year he was elected a member of the board of directors of Ursinus college, and did his first financial work for the college in the summer of 1885. In 1888 he relinquished the Trappe church and devoted all his time to the college. In June, 1891, he became a member of the faculty, and during the year 1892–93 taught psychology. Since President Spangler first gave attention to the finances of Ursinus almost $100,000 has been raised for the institution, besides the late bequest of Mr. Patterson of $160,000. In addition to his duties as president he teaches psychology, ethics, and homiletics. He is a man of fine intellectual attainments and recognized executive ability, and the college already feels the good effects of his elevation to the presidency.

HEDLEY FRANKLIN SLIFER, M.D., one of the best educated physicians in Montgomery county, and the leading practitioner of North Wales, is a son of John B. and Lucy Mohr Slifer, and was born at Zionville, Lehigh county, Pennsylvania, June 15, 1852.

His grandfather, Joseph Slifer, was a business man residing near Quakertown, in Montgomery county, up to the time of his death, in 1877, at seventy-eight years of age. He was a man of considerable prominence in his community, and a useful and influential citizen. He married Miss Beidler and had a family of twelve children.

John B. Slifer, father of Dr. Slifer, was born at Zionville, Lehigh county, where he spent his boyhood days and resided until after marriage, when out of desire to increase his opportunities he was induced to try the fortunes of the west, and accordingly located near Warren, in Trumbell county, Ohio, but soon established himself in an extensive lumber business near Frankford, in Clinton county, Indiana, where he remained in profitable business up to his premature death in 1869, at the age of forty-two years.

He was a staunch Republican in his political affiliation. In 1850 he married Lucy Mohr; this martial relation was blessed with five children.

Dr. H. Franklin Slifer received his pre-

liminary educational training in public and private schools of Zionville, this county, Trumbell county, Ohio, and Clinton county, Indiana. After obtaining a proficient knowledge of the subjects of an academic curriculum, he conceived the idea of medicine for his future life vocation. He came to Philadelphia and resided for a short time with an uncle, but soon entered the medical department of the University of Pennsylvania, from which he was graduated in the class of 1876 with the degree of M. D. Immediately upon graduation he located in the practice of his profession at Colmar, this county, where he practiced for two years, when in 1878 he came to North Wales, where he purchased the drug store and succeeded to the practice of Dr. Sibbal, and has here since built up one of the most extensive practices in Montgomery county. In 1880 Dr. Slifer was elected professor of physiology in North Wales academy, in which position he has served ever since.

In 1883 he went to Germany and took a course of pathology under the celebrated specialist, Professor Virchow, of the University of Berlin, and a course in surgery and diseases of children under Professor Bardenloben and Henoch, very celebrated specialists in these subjects. After spending some time in European travel he returned home and resumed his practice, but owing to ill-health was unable to carry on his extensive practice, and in the hope of restoring his health, in 1887-8 he made a grand tour around the world, and since his return has delivered many entertaining and instructive lectures on Egypt, China, Japan, Rome and other places and countries of interest visited by him.

In 1890 Dr. Slifer was elected an instructor in physiology in the Medico-Chirurgical college of Philadelphia, in which position he served two years, and at the end of this time was elected to the full chair of professor of physiology with a seat in the faculty, and remained two years. Since that time he has been devoting his energies to the practice of his profession in North Wales.

Dr. Slifer is a member of the alumni association of the University of Pennsylvania and the Medico-Chirurgical college of Philadelphia, the Montgomery County Medical Society, the State Medical Society, the American Medical Association and the Pathological Association of Philadelphia.

He is medical examiner for the Provident Life Trust Company, the New York Mutual, the Equitable, the National of Vermont and the Massachusetts Benefit Life Association, and he is also treasurer of the public library of North Wales.

On May 20, 1891, Dr. Slifer married Emma Schlotterer. Their marriage has been blessed with one son, Victor Galen.

Dr. Slifer as an instructor and lecturer, is exact, clear and eloquent, investing the dryest subject with life and color, rendering it entertaining and instructive; as a physician he is progressive and regards his profession in its true light. progressive in character, he would keep it abreast the wonderful advance of the present age. He knows no grander or nobler field for human effort than that of medicine, which justly stands in the van of the world's great professions.

THE BLIEM FAMILY.—Mr. Christian Bliem, sr., was born on the banks of the Rhine, New Manheim, Germany, December 25, 1711, and died in his ninety-eighth year, 1809. He was of Huguenot

extraction, his ancestry going from France to Germany about 1570 on account of religious persecution. He came to America about 1735, and bought and settled upon a tract of one hundred and fifty acres of land in Hanover township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania (then part of Philadelphia county), near Pottstown, which he occupied nearly seventy-five years. Soon after his death, Christian, jr., his son, bought two hundred and fifty more acres, making the whole tract four hundred acres, and which in turn, the son occupied until his death in 1816.

The father and son each made their own wills, which are registered at Norristown. The deeds to these properties also appear on record at the same place. Before the Revolutionary war, Christian, sr., had loaned a neighbor $800 in gold and silver, which was repaid in the Continental money and which became worthless after the close of the war. He begged his neighbor to give him at least a cow to partly cover his loss, but his request was not granted. He rode to Philadelphia, carrying his produce to market on a pack-horse, a single marketing amounting to about ten dollars. He prospered and died a rich man for one of his day, and bought in his lifetime a farm for his sons, Daniel and Christian.

Christian Bliem jr., (or the second) was born February 25, 1746, (died February 20, 1816). He married, in 1768, Salome, eldest child of Jacob and Susanna Langenecker. She was born January, 1746, and died 1810. Their children were: Salome, born 1770, married Samuel Moyer, of Perkasie, Bucks county, died 1812; Christian L., born 1773, and died 1831; Philip L., born 1775, and died 1847; Daniel L., born 1777, and died 1844; Mary, married Jacob Latshaw, born 1782, and died 1816; John L., born 1784, and died 1858; and Jacob L., born 1788, and died 1864.

Christian L. Bliem married Magdalena Hoch (now High), a daughter of the Mennonite preacher, John High. Their children were: Salome, born December 15, 1796, was married May 2, 1819, to Joseph Lerch, died April 24, 1847; Magdalena, born January 25, 1798, married Jacob Dreisbach (children: Matilda, Sarah and Susan), died November 2, 1847; Elizabeth born May 3, 1800, married Peter Anevolt (children were Stephen, Eliza, Lucy, John, George, Samuel and William), died October 11, 1856; Daniel born August 30, 1806, married Susan Boyer (children were: J. Christman, Calvin, Amanda, Catharine, Mary and Ellen); Catharine, born in July, 1809, married Rev. David Kemmerer (children were David C., Amelia, Theodore, Ellen and Tillie.) The children of Joseph and Salome Lerch were: Stephen C., David, Joseph, Catharine, Sarah, John, Mandes and Benneville. Joseph Lerch was born December 21, 1786, and died September 4, 1856.

Christian Bliem (the second, named above) was from 1814 a Mennonite preacher until the time of his death in 1831. His first wife, Magdalena Hoch, died twenty-three years after their marriage. His second marriage was with Anna Heistand. They had three children: one died in youth, one daughter married Mr. Fretz, and the other married Mr. Sell. He was born in Montgomery county, moved to East Nantmeal, Chester county, and, in 1805 purchased a farm from Thomas Hower, in Allen township, known as the Irish settlement, containing two hundred and eighteen acres, paying therefor $22,800. It is said he made as much as $1000 yearly during some of the best years of his farming. In

r845 he removed to Milford Square, Bucks county, and died October 14, 1831, and is buried at the Milford Square Mennonite church. J. Christian Bliem, son of the said David, is a preacher of the Evangelical association, South Bethlehem, Pa.

Rev. Daniel Kemmerer was born near Easton, Pa., September 15, 1802; died at Wooster, Ohio, May 6, 1893, in his ninety-first year. His great-grandfather emigrated from Zwei-brücken, Germany, in 1730. Rev. Kemmerer prepared for the ministry. The descendants of this ancestry are so numerous in this and adjoining counties that the scope of this volume cannot follow the long line of lineage, but there remain incidents of the earlier ones deserving of note.

In the family of Jacob L. Bliem, for a period of about thirty years, lived Mrs. Susanna Schantz, wife of Peter Schantz, during her widow-hood. She was the daughter of Henry and Esther (Langenecker) Rhoads. Her husband and she lived at Parkersford, and he died there while yet a young man. She had many cousins living in Chester, Montgomery and Lancaster counties, and a few in Philadelphia, many of whom she visited. She was very intelligent and knew much of the history of the generations which preceded her, and had the traditionary sufferings of the Longakers, Bleims, Bertolettes and other families on account of being Huguenots. She had features so strongly resembling her paternal ancestry that Jacob H. Bliem, who is now 75 years old, and residing at Hobbie, Luzerne county, Pa., says: Many years ago while in Norristown he met and recognized Daniel Longaker, whom he had not known before from the strong resemblance which he had to her and the other kindred. She was of the third and he of the fourth generations from their progenitor, Jacob Longenecker. She was always apprehensive that the persecutions suffered by her forefathers might be repeated in this country. For many years she was the bosom companion of her cousin, Susanna Longaker Wagenseller, the widow of Peter Wagenseller. Governor Francis R. Shunk when a young man was her school teacher. She read the German fluently and preferred it rather than English. In her early life she was a faithful Mennonite, but later she worshipped with the Methodists. Her father's farm, the Rhoads homestead of several hundred acres, was at Phœnixville; upon the high ground above the old cotton factory stood the dwelling house, and the long stretch of fertile meadow extended along French creek.

Christian Bliem, Jr., after the battle of Brandywine, served in the army, using his farm teams on the march towards Easton, and while the army of Washington was encamped near Fegleysville. General Washington lodged during his stay in that locality at the Bertolette mansion, two miles east of Fegleysville. (Esther, a daughter of Mr Bertolette, was the wife of Jacob H. Bleim.) The Longeneckers also assisted with their teams. The Bertolettes were Huegenots, and have in their family a Bible printed in French with the date 1567. In the summer of 1802 Jacob L. Bliem, then fifteen years old, helped his grandfather, Christian Bliem, Sr., then in his 91st year, to thresh the seed rye which was sown that season. There are many of the Schantz, Bleim and Henry Brower descendants living near Prescott and the adjacant country in Canada, their ancestry settling there the beginning of the present century.

Elizabeth, a daughter of Christian and Magdalena Bliem, married Peter Anewalt.

Sam'l L. Cowden

Two of the sons, John and Samuel Anewalt, are prosperous merchants at Allentown. Another daughter married Joseph Lerch. Mandes Lerch and Frank J. Lerch of Bethlehem are descendants of him. The latter is a popular and successful merchant at Bethlehem. Jacob H. Bliem, of Hobbie, Pa., has furnished data for many of these incidents, also the lineage of the family.

Many branches comprising the present generations living about Pottstown—the Lessigs, Boettners and the Bechtels in Berks county, and the Moyers and Oberholtzers at Perkasie, Bucks, have a large posterity, many of whom are prominent, popular and well-to-do people in their respective localities.

SAMUEL L. COWDEN, of the firm of Cowden & Zimmerman, one of the largest and most prosperous plumbing, gas and steam-fitting establishments of Montgomery county, is also one of the leading citizens and most enterprising business men of Norristown. He is the only surviving child of John and Charlotte (Zimmerman) Cowden, and was born on the 4th of March, 1848, on his father's farm in Plymouth township. Of Scotch-Irish ancestry, the Cowden family has been in America since a few years before the breaking out of the war for Independence. The original ancestor in this country was Samuel Cowden, who located near Norristown, in Montgomery county, and proceeded to earn a living for his wife and little family. When the youthful Republic needed men to bare their breasts for her safety, Samuel Cowden bade farewell to his wife and children and shouldered a flintlock for his country. When the British came through Montgomery county they sacked his house and destroyed every vestige of his household goods, and his family were thrown upon the mercies of the kind people of the neighborhood. Samuel Cowden lived only a few years after the war, and was buried at Providence Presbyterian cemetery. He was the father of three children: Hester, Thomas and Samuel.

Thomas Cowden, grandfather of the subject of this sketch, and son of Samuel Cowden, the soldier, was born near Norristown on the 6th of February, 1775. He was brought up in this section, and was apprenticed to John Miller, of Norristown, to learn the trade of blacksmith. He also mastered the art of gun-making, and followed that business until about 1798, when he married Hannah Couch, of Upper Providence, and located at Hickorytown, Plymouth township, and followed his trade on his own account. Some years later, being surrounded with a numerous family, grandfather Cowden bought a farm near his blacksmith shop, and combined farming with his regular business. Here he reared a family of eight children: Samuel, William, Hester, Ellen, who died young, Charles George, John, Mary and Ann. He prospered in his business ventures, and died at the age of 73 years. After his death his widow went to live with a daughter at Norristown, where she lived to the age of 73 years, dying September, 1850.

John Cowden, the father of the subject of this sketch, was the youngest son of Thomas Cowden. He was brought up on his father's farm, and assisted in working it until 1836, when he married Charlotte, daughter of Jacob and Mary Zimmerman, of Whitpain township. This marriage was fruitful in bringing them five children: Mary J., born December 14, 1837; Charles Henry, born September 27, 1839; John F. was born July 16, 1841, and died in infancy; Hannah, born

January 25, 1843, and *Samuel L.*, born March 4, 1848. He continued to work the farm until 1847, when he purchased a small tract of land and erected buildings thereon, where he lived until 1855.

He was a prominent Democrat, and in 1853, was elected County Commissioner. New public buildings were being erected at the county seat, Norristown, about this time, and as he wanted to give the work all his time he removed his family to the scene of operations. Here he was kept very busy during his whole term of office. When he retired from office he located at Airy and De Kalb streets, where he fitted up a grocery store, which he conducted with the help of his eldest son Charles. About this time he was appointed Street and Road Commissioner by the Town Council and served two years in that capacity. In the meanwhile he was made executor of the will of Jacob Teany, a prominent and wealthy citizen of Norristown, who was an elder in the Central Presbyterian Church. This estate and other trusts kept him well occupied for several years. When his son Charles died at the tender age of 26 years, he closed out the grocery store. In 1868 he was appointed warden of the county prison by the County Commissioners, and held that responsible post two years. Disease contracted while serving in this office resulted in his death on September 3, 1876, at the age of 62 years. His widow survived him until June 7, 1882. He was a member of the Norristown Presbyterian Church from childhood, and his wife was a member of the Oak Street Methodist Church, and all of the deceased members of the family are buried in the family lot in the Montgomery Cemetery.

Samuel L. Cowden, the subject of this sketch, is therefore the only survivor. He was sent to the public schools of Norristown, and then to Treemont Seminary. At the age of 15 years he entered his father's grocery store as a clerk, and one year later was apprenticed to learn the plumbing trade. He served an apprenticeship of four years, and on April 1, 1869, he engaged in business on his own account on a small scale on Airy street above De Kalb, Norristown, where he continued and built up a good trade until 1873. His father purchased the lot 316 De Kalb street, and built a storeroom on it, and Samuel formed a partnership with S. S. Jones and occupied the new building. In 1879 this partnership was dissolved, Mr. Cowden continuing it for himself. His business kept growing rapidly, and he soon found his building too small for his trade. In 1886 he purchased an addition to his lot and enlarged his building to a three-story mansard. The first story is a large and complete storeroom filled with a splendid stock of goods. The upper floors are fitted up as workshops and are supplied with all the latest improved machinery, making it the most complete and largest plumbing establishment in the county. On March 1, 1890, Mr. Cowden formed a co-partnership with W. I. Zimmerman, who had been faithful in his employ for seventeen years, under the firm name of Cowden & Zimmerman, and this firm is still intact, doing a splendid business in general plumbing and gas and steam fitting and employing a force of fifteen hands and occupying a three-story brick building 20 x 50 feet in dimensions. Mr. Cowden resides at No. 19 East Airy street. He was married on March 9, 1871, to Miss Lydia A., daughter of William and Hannah A. Keiger, of Bridgeport, and they have two children: Charlotte G. and C. Harry. Mrs. Cowden, like her husband, is also descended from Revolutionary stock, her great-grandfather,

George Keiger, being of German birth and coming to this country in time to help fight for its freedom. The Cowden family were all Presbyterians, though Mrs. Cowden is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Mr. Cowden has been a member of the Humane Fire Company for the last twenty-five years, and from 1870 to 1875, he served as a member of the State Militia, enlisting as sergeant and being promoted later on to second lieutenant of Co. A., 16th Regiment. He is a man of fine business tact and highly esteemed in the community.

WILLIAM W. RAMSEY, who has been engaged in farming near Abrams for many years, is the eldest son and second child of Samuel and Sarah G. (Terrell) Ramsey, and was born ——, 1847, on a farm in Chester County, Pennsylvania, near the point where the Pennsylvania, Delaware and Maryland State lines join. His paternal grandfather, Isaac Ramsey, was a man of good education for his day, and followed teaching in the old private and subscription schools of his section of the State. He resided at Bridgeport, was a Democrat, and married and reared a family. One of his sons was Samuel Ramsey, the father of the subject of this sketch, and who was born and reared at Bridgeport. He left Bridgeport before he was of age, resided for a time in Upper Merion township, and then removed to the southeastern part of Chester County, where he followed farming for some time. He then went to Philadelphia, and was there engaged in butchering up to his death, which occurred ——, 18—, when he was in the sixty-eighth year of his age. He married Sarah G. Terrell, a daughter of ——— Terrell, and their family consisted of five children, four sons and one daughter: Martha (Mrs. Richard F. Wood), William W., Matthew, Samuel G., and George W.

William W. Ramsey passed the first six years of his childhood in Chester County, then lived in Philadelphia until he was eighteen years of age, and then came to Upper Merion township, where he has resided ever since. He attended a private school in Chester County, the Philadelphia city schools, and the common schools of Upper Merion township, and then was engaged in farming with Moses Walker until the death of the latter. He then assumed the management of the Walker farm for the widow and heirs, and has continued therein up to the present time.

On ———, 1877, Mr. Ramsey married Ellen D. Walker, a daughter of ——— Walker, and has a family of three children: Joseph D., Harold A., and Charles N.

William Walker is a stanch Republican, and served as a member of the school board, while he is now serving in his third consecutive term as auditor of Upper Merion township. He is a member of Lynwood Lodge, Ancient Order of United Workmen.

APPENDIX

APPENDIX

GEN. WINFIELD S. HANCOCK, who with Generals Anthony Wayne and Philip Henry Sheridan constitute the great trio of American military chieftains distinguished above all others for "fearless courage and desperate energy," was a son of Benjamin F. and Elizabeth Hancock, and was born in Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, February 14, 1824. He received his education at Norristown in the academies conducted by Eliphalet Roberts and the celebrated Rev. Samuel Aaron. Leaving school, he received his appointment to the United States Military academy at West Point on July 1, 1840, through Hon. Joseph Fornance, then a member of Congress. He was a cadet with Grant, McClellan, Reynolds, Franklin, Burnside, Reno, and William M. Smith. He was graduated June 30, 1844, and appointed the next day as a second lieutenant in the sixth infantry. He served on the western frontier and then went to Mexico. In the battles of San Antonio, Cherubusco, Contreras, Molino del Rey, and the assault on the city of Mexico, he displayed conspicuous courage and ability and received his first promotion. From 1848 to 1855 he served with his regiment in the west. He was engaged against the Seminoles, in Florida, and served in Kansas during a portion of the quasi-civil war there. At the outbreak of the late Civil war in 1861, he was at Los Angelos, California, as chief quartermaster of the Southern district. Relieved from duty there, at his own request, he went to Washington and applied for active duty in the field. He was assigned to the position of chief quartermaster under General Anderson in Kentucky, but before he entered upon his duties he received the commission (September 23, 1861) of a brigadier-general of volunteers. He afterward joined the Army of the Potomac, and from that time until the close of the war his career forms a notable part of the history of that army. During the winter of 1861–62 he commanded a brigade in Virginia. In the spring of 1862 he accompanied General McClellan to the Virginia peninsula, and took an important part in the Seven Days' battle near Richmond. For his services there he received several brevets and was recommended by McClellan for promotion to major-general, which was made in November, 1862. In the battles of South Mountain, Antietam, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, and Gettysburg, General Hancock's services were conspicuous; so, also, were his services in Grant's campaigns against Richmond, which resulted in the surrender of Lee at Appomattox. For his services at Gettysburg (where he was severely wounded) General Hancock received the thanks of Congress. In the winter of 1863–64 he was engaged in the recruiting service in the north, where his great popularity made him very successful. While engaged in the operations against Richmond, he was commissioned a brigadier-general in the regular army on the 12th of August, 1864. In November he was selected to organize the first army corps of veterans. In Febru-

ary, 1865, he was assigned to the command of the Middle military division, and in July to that of the Middle department. In August, 1866, he was transferred to the command of the department of Missouri. He had relinquished his volunteer commission and been promoted to major-general of the regular army. From September, 1867, until March, 1868, he was in command of the department of the Gulf. From March, 1868, to March, 1869, he commanded the Military division of the Atlantic. From 1869 to 1879 he was the supreme commander of the Military division of Dakota, and was then again placed in command of the division of the Atlantic, with his headquarters at Governor's island in the harbor of New York, which position he held until his death, which occurred on the 29th of October, 1885. General Hancock declined the Democratic nomination for governor of Pennsylvania in 1869, but accepted from the same party the nomination for president of the United States in 1880, and was defeated at the election in the fall. General Hancock was a large, well-proportioned and handsome man. His last conspicuous appearance in public was as marshal at the funeral services at New York city in honor of General Grant.

The brief account recited but barely sketches an official record of General Hancock, and space in a work of this nature allows but little more to be added, yet some of the salient points of his character will be noticed and reference made to some of his brilliant battles and their great importance in crushing the Confederate army of Northern Virginia and preserving the imperilled union. General Hancock possessed a wonderful personal magnetism like Sheridan, and like Sheridan could hold his men to an attack where other generals would have ordered a retreat to have prevented a disastrous rout. He knew no fear, but carefully planned his movements, and with equal numbers was never defeated or driven back. In the Wilderness campaign he commanded as high as fifty thousand men at a time, and his magnificent storming of the Confederate works at Spottsylvania was the most brilliant achievement of the Army of the Potomac during the year 1864. His prudence, foresight, judgment and fearlessness indicated his ability for military leadership, and made him equal to any emergency. His personal bravery on a score of battle fields made him popular with the army and the nation and his splendid generalship was shown at Gettysburg on the first day when he rallied the flying Union troops and in the very face of a fierce attack made such dispositions as to bring success on the two ensuing days. He was also modest and declined to oppose Meade for the command of the Army of the Potomac.

General Hancock won the first battle in the Peninsular campaign, and selected the ground for the battle field of Gettysburg, where the rebellion reached high-water mark. The dangerous wound he received there prevented him from joining in pursuit of the Confederate army, and from his usual energy and foresight it is generally believed that he would have given such a vigor to that pursuit that Lee would have found his Appomattox in one of the early July days of 1864, upon the banks of the Potomac. At Spottsylvania court house he pierced almost to the heart of Lee's position, and if he had been properly supported, ruin only could have been the fate of the army of Northern Virginia. From Spottsylvania to Petersburg he commanded in several desperate charges and repelled

various fierce attacks. After that he won the battles of Deep Bottom, Ream's Station and Boydtown Road, and then, of all the brave Union generals beneath Grant, Sherman, and Sheridan, he was the one chosen by President Lincoln to organize and command an army of fifty thousand veterans and to succeed Sheridan in the Valley. He soon recruited his army, relieved Sheridan, and was preparing to deal a heavy blow, when the golden opportunity slipped from his grasp by the deepening of the shadows of Gettysburg into the night of Appomattox.

From the close of the war until his death in 1885, he was in command of different important military departments of the United States, and everywhere and at all times displayed prudence and discretion, although never lacking firmness in any emergency. Whatever may be said of his celebrated general order No. 40, issued at New Orleans, and however much deprecated by any one, on account of his refering crimes and offences to the civil tribunals then in existence in Louisiana, yet it must be borne in mind that that much discussed document emphatically declared that "armed insurrection or forcible resistance to the law will be instantly suppressed by arms." His life is ended and his work is done, but his glory is full-orbed and will never wane while heroism and patriotism are cherished in the land he fought to preserve.

On every page of the history of the Army of the Potomac from the Peninsular campaign to the seige of Petersburg, the name of Winfield Scott Hancock appears legible and bright. Soldier, patriot and hero, he occupies a high niche in the American temple of fame, and for energy, bravery, and military ability would have towered among the marshals of the mighty Napoleon or the generals of Alexander the Great.

DAVID RITTENHOUSE PORTER, a very distinguished citizen of Montgomery county, was one of the ablest public men of Pennsylvania during the period between 1825 and 1840. He was a son of General Andrew Porter, an able and gallant officer of Revolutionary fame, and was born in the family mansion near Norristown, October 31, 1788. He received his education at the old Norristown academy, and although intended by his father for the bar, a want of health and a desire for a more active and stirring life caused him to remove to Huntingdon county and embark in the iron business. He gained in health, became prominent in business life and was sent in 1821 to the assembly by the Democrats of that county. In his new sphere of life the qualities that made him prominent in business secured him leadership in politics. At the end of his term he was sent to the State senate and there increased his already marked influence so much that in 1838 his party turned to him as the best qualified and most available man to lead them to victory in the gubernatorial contest. He was elected and at the close of his term re-elected by a majority nearly four times as large as at his first election. No public man ever made a bolder and more judicious fight and won a more decided victory against inveterate foes and the gravest of charges than David R. Porter. His administration was able and wise and completely refuted the serious campaign accusations brought against him. Retiring from the gubernatorial chair he resumed the iron business and was among

the first to start anthracite furnaces. He suffered in the financial storm of 1857, but bore his losses manfully.

Governor Porter left his impress upon the commonwealth of Pennsylvania for good during a period when a man of bold action and shrewd observation—such as he was—could only have been successful as chief executive. During the late Civil war he was an ardent supporter of the Union cause, for which his son, General Horace Porter, fought so bravely. Governor Porter passed to rest on August 6, 1867, and his remains lie beneath a beautiful monument in the Harrisburg cemetery.

GENERAL ANDREW PORTER, a Revolutionary hero and surveyor general of Pennsylvania, was a son of Robert Porter, who came from Ireland in early life and settled in Worcester township. General Porter was born September 24, 1743, received a good education and became principal of a mathematical school in Phildelphia, which he left in 1776 to offer his services to Congress. He was commissioned captain and served in the navy a short time, and then joined Washington's army, being in the battles of Trenton, Princeton and Brandywine. He was promoted major at Valley Forge, and then became colonel of the Fourth Pennsylvania artillery at the close of the Revolution. He afterwards assisted Rittenhouse to ascertain the boundary line between Virginia and Pennsylvania, and in 1787 ran the boundary line between Pennsylvania and New York. These services so ably performed secured him the appointment of surveyor-general of Pennsylvania, which office he filled from 1809 until his death, which occurred in 1813. He served as a brigadier-general and afterwards as a major-general in the state militia, and it is said refused the secretaryship of war once tendered him by President Madison. He was the father of Governor David Porter, and his other sons, James M. and George B., became judges and the latter was subsequently governor of Michigan.

COLONEL ROBERT LOLLER, a prominent citizen of Montgomery county, was born in 1740. He was of Scotch-Irish origin, received a superior education for that day and taught school for some time at Chestnut Hill. He then engaged in surveying and resided at Hatboro until the commencement of the Revolution, and soon afterwards was a member of the convention that framed the constitution of Pennsylvania. He joined the army under Washington in 1777 and was in the battles of Trenton, Princeton, and Germantown. He was employed as a paymaster and surveyor during the latter part of the Revolution and afterwards served as a member of the assembly, besides holding numerous county offices. He married Mary McClean, a daughter of Richard McClean, and died October 21, 1808. He was a man of some means and made a generous use of his wealth. By his will he gave money to Norristown academy, Abington Presbyterian church and Hatboro library, while $11,000 went to build Loller academy, which received an annual endowment of $283. Hon. N. B. Boileau wrote the epitaph which was placed on his tombstone and read as follows: "To the memory of Robert Loller, Esq., this stone is dedicated. He departed this life October 21st, 1808, aged sixty-eight years. In the American Revolution he took an early and active part in defending the rights of his country.

As a patriot, soldier, and statesmen he acted with honor and usefulness, and in the practice of every domestic and social virtue was highly exemplary. A literary institution, called by his name, was erected and endowed in the village of Hatboro."

COLONEL THEODORE W. BEAN, an active lawyer and the author of the Montgomery county history, published in 1884, was a son of Hon. William and Mary (Weber) Bean, and was born in Norriton township May 14, 1833. James and Mary Bean came from Wales about 1700. Their son John Bean, was the father of Hon. Jesse Bean, who married Hannah Lane and died in 1847. The eldest son of the last named couple was Hon. William Bean, who died in 1855, aged sixty-seven years. He married Mary Weber, whose family went from Bavaria to Holland in the fifteenth century. From Holland in 1697 came Christian Weber, who settled in Worcester township, where his son Christian was born. This Christian, the younger, was the father of John Weber and the grandfather of Mrs. Bean, who lived to be over ninety years of age.

Theodore W. Bean received a common school education, and worked at blacksmithing until 1862, when he enlisted in the 17th Pennsylvania cavalry and served in the army of the Potomac until the close of the war, being breveted lieutenant-colonel for gallant and distinguished service. He afterwards read law, was admitted to the bar in 1869, and practiced at Norristown until his death. He was a good lawyer, but had a peculiar taste for historical matters, and the history of this county which he edited in 1884, is a lasting monument to his memory.

HON. NATHAN B. BOILEAU, one of the most brilliant men that Montgomery county ever produced, and who outlived the earthly dream of greatness, was a son of Isaac and Rachel (Brittain) Boileau, and was born two miles north of Hatboro, in 1763. Isaac Boileau was the son of a French Huguenot who was driven from France by the revocation of the edict of Nantes.

N. B. Boileau was a graduate of Princeton college, and for some ten years afterwards managed his farm, helped Fitch to build one of his model steamboats, and studied closely the political writings of the founders of the Republic. He entered political life in 1797, being elected to the general assembly in that year. He was re-elected seven times and during his last session in 1808, was made speaker of the assembly. Leaving the speaker's chair he resigned and was appointed as secretary of the commonwealth, which office he held for nine years. His name was now brought forward as a Democratic candidate for governor. The legislative caucus chose Findley instead of Boileau, and the latter charged Findley with securing the nomination by corrupt means. Following this ill conceived move by openly supporting Findley's opponent, he caused his party to break with him and he was relegated to private life. During his seventeen years of public life, he did much for his county and State, and was on the very highway to national position and national honors, when one impolitic act cut short a splendid political career. His integrity, his honor, his honesty were never questioned. He was patriotic, benevolent and unselfish. "His want of rigid care of property in his old days was perhaps a weakness, but an amicable one, for his wealth lasted nearly as

long as he had use for it, and when the summons came he had no idol to bind him to earth as many have." The last public office that he held was that of register of wills, which he held from 1836 to 1839, and it was received by appointment from Governor Ritner. Mr. Boileau was as singularly unfortunate in private as in public life. He was engaged to Charlotte Leech, who died, then married her sister Hester, who lived but two years, and afterwards married the third sister, Ann Leech, who died in 1834. Nathan Brittain Boileau, talented, educated, wealthy and upright, failed at the very threshold of grasping the prize of his life's ambition, but lived for a quarter of a century afterward and passed away March 16, 1850, at eighty-eight years of age.

HON. JACOB FRY, jr., who served two terms in Congress and modestly earned the title of "honest," was a son of Jacob and Elizabeth Fry, and was born at Trappe, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, June 10, 1802. He was a pupil of Francis R. Shunk, afterwards governor of the State, and after receiving a good education, followed teaching until 1830, when he was appointed prothonotary. Four years later he was nominated and elected to Congress, and was re-elected in 1836. He was popular with his party and respected by the other side of the house, in which he supported the Van Buren idea of no slavery agitation in Congress. From 1838 to 1853 he was in the general mercantile business, and then was elected and re-elected to the general assembly, serving two terms. He then, in 1856, was elected auditor-general of Pennsylvania, and served one term. This ended his political career, and six years later he died on November 28, 1866. He was an ardent Lutheran, an upright and honest man, and as a public official, was courteous yet firm, and discharged every duty with scrupulous care. He married Mary Gross, only daughter of Hon. Samuel Gross, an ex-member of Congress.

Mr. Fry, while possessing a vein of dry humor, yet was never sarcastic or bitter.

REV. JOHN PHILIP BOEHM, the first Reformed minister in the province of Pennsylvania, was a schoolmaster and foresinger, of the city of Worms, Germany, and came about 1720 to Philadelphia, where he first acted as a reader for the members of the Reformed church living there. He then preached without license or church authority until 1729 when on November 29 he was ordained by authority of the Classis of Amsterdam. He labored throughout a large region, and laid the foundation of many Reformed churches. He settled in Whitpain township before 1734, organized the congregation there now known as Boehm's church, and became very wealthy, owning a large tract of land, slaves and a distillery. He died suddenly on May 1, 1749, and his remains lie under a wall of the present Boehm church.

REV. HENRY E. MUHLENBERG, a German Lutheran minister of talent, piety and extensive literary and scientific acquirements, was a son of Rev. Henry Melchoir and Anna Maria (Weiser) Muhlenberg, and was born at Trappe, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, November 17, 1753. He received his education at the University of Halle, in Germany, was ordained to the Lutheran ministry at twenty years of age,

and served as pastor of a Lutheran church at Lancaster, this State, from 1780 until his death in 1815, at sixty-two years of age. He was an authority on botany, mineralogy and kindred sciences and wrote in Latin several valuable botanical and geological works.

DAVID RITTENHOUSE, whose name is world wide as a mathematician and astronomer, was a resident of Norriton township from eight years of age until 1770. "Near the banks of the beautiful Wissahickon, in the vicinity of Germantown, four miles from Philadelphia, lived three hermits a century and a half ago; and near their hiding-places from the world's ken, a mile from the old village where the good Count Zinzendorf, the Moravian, labored and reposed, was the birth-place of one whose name is co-extensive with scientific knowledge. It was David Rittenhouse, the eminent mathematician, who was born in Roxborough township, on the 8th of April, 1732. His father (Matthias) was a humble farmer, and David was his chief assistant when his life approached young manhood. The geometrical diagrams which disfigured his implements of labor, the barn doors, and the pig-sty, attested the peculiar workings of his brain while yet a mere lad. These indications of genius would doubtless have been disregarded, and his aspiration remained unsatisfied had not a feeble body made the abandonment of field labor a stern necessity. David was apprenticed to a clock and mathematical instrument maker, and the pursuit being consonant with his taste, he was eminently successful. Rittenhouse was a sincere student, but on account of his pecuniary wants, he was deprived, in a great degree, of the most valuable sources of information, especially concerning the progress of science in Europe. While Newton and Liebnitz were warmly disputing for the honor of first discoverer of *Fluxions*, Rittenhouse, entirely ignorant of what they had done, became the inventor of that remarkable feature in algebraical analysis." He had his observatory on the eminence above Presbyterian church, where Franklin frequently visited him. About 1766, although only known as a clock maker, he constructed for Princeton college, the first orrery ever made in America. In 1769 he observed the transit of Venus, and in 1795 he was elected a member of the Royal Society of London.

On February 20, 1766, David Rittenhouse married Eleanor Coulston, a daughter of Bernard Coulston.

When Dr. Franklin died, Rittenhouse was chosen president of the American Philosophical society, to fill his place; and from his own earnings he gave the institution fifteen hundred dollars, on the day of his inauguration. His fame was now world-wide, and many official honors awaited his acceptance. He held the office of treasurer of the State of Pennsylvania, for many years; and in 1792, he was appointed the first director of the Mint. Failing health compelled him to resign that trust in 1795; and on the 6th of June, the following year, he died the death of a Christian, at the age of sixty-four years.

DANIEL H. MULVANY, a distinguished lawyer and a man of fine intellectual endowments and a quick perception of the ideal, was born in Upper Merion township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, November 12, 1809, and died May 18, 1873. He was a son of Thomas and Mary (Hitner)

Mulvany, and a grandson of P. Mulvany, who married Martha Davis, a native of County Down, Ireland, and a woman of great beauty and rare intellectual endowments. David H. Mulvany received a classical education, read law and was admitted to the bar in 1811. He served for some time as deputy attorney-general of Montgomery county, frequently refused political offices and spent his life in the practice of his favorite profession. He was patriotic and raised and commanded a company of troops during Lee's invasion in 1863. Mr. Mulvany was known as the "silver-tongued orator" and the perfect gentleman under all circumstances. Gentle, earnest persuasive and of elegant diction he was universally popular and very social. In 1837 he married Julia Leedom, and their daughter, Emma Louise Mulvany, inter-married with Dr. John C. Spear, an eminent surgeon in the United States army.

HON. FRANCIS R. SHUNK, who prefaced that the office of governor for two terms during one of the most difficult periods of our State history, was a son of John R. and Elizabeth Rubel Shunk, and was born at Tioga, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, August 7, 1788. He was of German descent, his ancestors coming from the Palatinate, Germany, in 1719. His parents being poor he received but a common English education, and after teaching the school of his native village became secretary of the surveyor-general of Pennsylvania. His future was now assured and a long and honorable career opened before the humble school teacher.

Honest, honorable, efficient and reliable promotion came rapidly. He was successively assistant clerk of the Pennsylvania house of representatives, clerk to the canal commissioners and secretary of the commonwealth. In 1823 he was nominated and elected by a large votes of a majority to succeed Governor Porter and in 1826 was honored by a re-nomination and re-election as governor by a majority of 4,895 votes. His health, always delicate, gave way before the time of the expiration of his second term and he resigned to seek the quiet repose of private life. He died July 20, 1845, and on July 4, 1851, a marble monument was placed over his remains in Augusta cemetery, which had been purchased by subscription, and bearing the following inscriptions:

Zum Gedächtniss
der
hier ruhenden Ueberreste
des verdienstvollen Patriots
FRANCIS RUBEL SHUNK
er wurde geboren
in der Stadt
Montgomery County
Pennsylvania
den 7 August im
Jahre unsers Herrn
1788 Er starb den 20
July 1845 im 57ten Jahr
seines Alters
Er lebte
wurde das meiste
Erdenseer Leid
Und Lag in
vielen

East face reads:

FRANCIS R. SHUNK,
Governor of Pennsylvania,
Born in Tioga August 7, 1788
Died at Harrisburg July 20, 1845

"Francis R. Shunk was not a brilliant but a sincere honest man. This reputation he maintained through a long political life. Like his predecessor Simon Snyder, he was one of the full-time honest Germans, of whom our State has produced so many. The text chosen for his monument shows

that the halo of the Muhlenbergs, who used to breathe patriotism and piety combined in the old Trappe church, was not lost on young Frantz Shunk as he sat in that classic sanctuary.

Annually, while he lived at Harrisburg, he paid a visit to the scenes of his childhood, generally being the guest of his lifelong friend, Hon. Jacob Fry, Jr. At such times he loved to visit among his old acquaintances, without any regard to rank or party. A gentleman, who was a small boy then, gives the following characterization, showing his utter lowliness of mind and enduring friendship for old acquaintances. He says: "I was but a mere lad at that time, but well remember his tall and noble form and pleasant face. His child-like simplicity and goodness of heart were conspicuous. His delight was to visit the older abodes of the older villagers of Trappe, no matter how humble their lot, and talk with them of 'ye olden time.'"

WILLIAM MOORE SMITH, who has the honor of first laying out Norristown as the town of "Norris" into streets and lots, was a son of Rev. Dr. William Smith, of the University of Pennsylvania, and was born in Philadelphia June 1, 1759. Dr. Smith was born in Aberdeen, Scotland, and graduated from the University of Aberdeen. He came to Philadelphia in 1750, and was provost of the University of Pennsylvania and pastor of an Episcopal church for many years. He was one of the finest scholars in America, and married Rebecca Moore, a daughter of William Moore, of Moore Hall, in Chester county, and a descendant of Sir John Moore, of England.

William Moore Smith, the eldest child of this marriage, received his education in the University of Pennsylvania, and was a lawyer of ability and success. He laid out Norristown in 1785, was general agent for British claims in America for several years under the sixth article of Jay's treaty and died at his mansion, near Philadelphia, March 12, 1821. His remains rest by the side of those of his father in Laurel Hill cemetery. Two sons survived him, William R. and Richard Penn, the former, a historian of Wisconsin, and the latter, a literary man of note at the commencement of the present century.

HON. SAMUEL GROSS, who served from 1818 to 1822 in Congress and voted against the admission of Missouri as a slave State, was born November 10, 1774, and died March 19, 1844. He lived in Upper Providence township, was a Democrat of great influence and served as a member of the Assembly from 1805 to 1810; as a member of the State Senate from 1811 to 1814, and as a member of Congress from 1818 to 1822. He voted against the admission of Missouri as a slave State under instructions and advice of the Pennsylvania legislature as did Jonathan Roberts in the Senate.

HON. JOHN B. STERIGERE was a man of marked characteristics with whom life was earnest and time was precious. He was a son of Peter and Elizabeth Sterigere, and was born in Upper Dublin township October 13, 1793. He rose from obscurity to prominence by his own unaided efforts, being a self-made man in the truest sense of the word. He served as a justice of the peace, was a member of the assembly for four terms and served two terms in Congress, being a Jacksonian Democrat. Leav-

ing Congress he entered upon the practice of law which he pursued ever afterwards. He was a born political leader, served three terms in the State Senate, and failed to secure the governorship or a seat in the United States Senate, both of which offices he sought at different times. He was ever faithful to his friends, urged Buchanon's claims to the presidency at all times and in seasons, and was responsible for the insertion of the "white voter" in the State constitution. No man in Norristown ever did more for the improvement of that place than Mr. Sterigere. His private life was above reproach and public career was clean and honorable. His final summons came on October 13, 1852, and his remains were entombed in Puff's church-yard, where his parents sleep.

HON. DAVID KRAUSE, LL. D., was the youngest son of Judge David and Regina Krause, and was born at Lebanon, Pennsylvania, November 2, 1800. Judge Krause had served as a captain in the Revolution and as a colonel in the War of 1812, was a member of the legislature and afterwards became an associate judge of his native county. He designed his son, David, the subject of this brief sketch, for a farmer, but Rev. Earnest, the boy's tutor, fitted him for another field of labor. David Krause secured an appointment to West Point, but was induced by his parents to resign. He afterwards read law, was admitted to the bar and practiced at Lebanon until 1824. He afterwards served as private secretary to Governor Shulze, was associate State printer with Simon Cameron and served two terms as a member of the assembly from Dauphin county, voting for free schools, public improvements and a State bank. In 1845, without solicitation on his part, he was appointed as judge of Bucks and Montgomery counties, which position he held until 1851. He was popular but declined an election, and when Lee invaded Pennsylvania in 1862, served as a private in an emergency company. Respected, honored and esteemed, he died at Norristown June 13, 1871, and his remains were interred in Montgomery cemetery.

GENERAL ARTHUR ST. CLAIR, a citizen, property holder and temporary resident of Pottstown from 1779 to 1797, was a conspicuous character in the Revolutionary history of the American republic, and although a brave military leader, failed in winning that fame to which his talents and courage entitled him. General Arthur St. Clair, president of the Continental Congress in 1787, commander-in-chief of the armies of the United States in 1791 and governor of the Northwestern Territory from 1788 to 1802, was born at Thurso Castle, County Caithness, Scotland, in 1734. He was a son of Willam St. Clair, who was of the same stock as the then Earl of Caithness, from a common ancestry. The St.Clairs of Scotland are descended from Walderne de St. Clair, a Norman knight who married Margaret, daughter of Richard, Duke of Normandy. Their second son, William de St. Clair, settled in Scotland. Of his descendants, one became Earl of Orkney, which title the St. Clairs exchanged in 1471 for the earldom of Caithness, which they still hold under the Anglicised name of Sinclair.

Gen. St. Clair was educated at the University of Edinburgh and removed to London to study medicine under the celebrated Dr. William Hunter. War breaking out

between England and France, he purchased an ensign's commission and served under Wolfe in his campaign against Quebec in 1759. After peace he resigned his commission as lieutenant, resided for some time at Boston and Philadelphia and in 1765 was placed in command of Fort Ligonier in western Pennsylvania, by General Gage, to whom he was related. He took up large bodies of land in the Ligonier valley, was made prothonotary of Bedford county, Pennsylvania, in 1781, and two years later was largely instrumental in securing the erection of Westmoreland county. As prothonotary and justice of the peace of the new county, he successfully resisted the claims of Virginia to the territory. When the Revolution came he cast in his fortunes with the colonies. He inspired the Hanastown Declaration of Independence in 1775, perfected the Associators and was commissioned colonel by congress. He raised a regiment, fought in Canada under Montgomery and Arnold and was promoted to brigadier-general. At Trenton and Princeton he behaved with great skill and bravery and was commissioned a major-general. He was placed in command of Ticonderoga in 1777 but was compelled to abandon it and retreat with a disastrous loss of men and munitions. A military court of inquiry acquitted him of all blame. While suspended from command he fought as a volunteer at Brandywine and was with the army at Valley Forge. He succeeded Arnold in command of West Point, and was a member of the commission which sentenced Major Andre to death. After the capture of Yorktown he proceeded with a body of troops to join General Greene in the South, and on his way he drove the British from Wilmington, North Carolina. In 1783 he became a member of the Executive Council of Pennsylvania, was elected to congress and served as president of that body during 1787. Upon the erection of the Northwestern Territory in 1788 he was appointed governor and faithfully served as such for fourteen years. In 1790 he ran as the Federal candidate for governor of Pennsylvania and received two thousand eight hundred and two votes, while his successful Democratic opponent, Thomas Mifflin had twenty-seven thousand seven hundred and twenty-five votes.

General St. Clair commanded an army of two thousand men which was sent against the Miami Indians in 1791, and on November 4th of that year he was defeated with a loss of nearly seven hundred men. He was suffering from a fever, yet bore himself bravely in the thickest of the battle. The public was severe and unjust in its censure, but a committee appointed by congress acquitted him of all blame. When he retired from public life in 1802, he was an old man and almost ruined in fortune. He returned about that time to his farm, two miles northwest of Ligonier, Westmoreland county. He owned ten thousand eight hundred and eighty-one acres of land in western Pennsylvania. General St. Clair advanced several thousand dollars to pay the expenses of the Pennsylvania line in the Revolutionary war, which sum the government refused to pay him because he allowed the statute of limitations to cut out his claim. He also advanced $8,000 to pay Indian claims against the government and furnished $7,042 to help to fit out the expedition of 1791. These sums which he had borrowed the United States also refused to pay and his property was taken at half its value by his greedy creditors who also attached every dollar of the pitiful pension granted him by congress in 1818. His last days were ones of penury and want and he

kept a tavern in a log cabin on the summit of Chestnut ridge until his death on August 31, 1818. He was a Mason and his remains were interred at Greensburg, this State, by the Masonic fraternity, who erected in 1832, a monument over his dust, on which is inscribed this appropriate inscription, "The earthly remains of General Arthur St. Clair are deposited beneath this humble monument, which is erected to supply the place of a nobler one due from his country. He died August 31, 1818, in the eighty-fourth year of his age."

JAMES WINNARD SHRACK, was a son of Lewis and Phoebe (Griffith) Shrack, and was born in Norristown, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, January 25, 1813. Lewis Shrack was descended from Jacob Shrack, who came in 1717 from Germany, and bought and settled on a two hundred and fifty acre tract of land at Trappe, and died in 1742, at sixty-three years of age. Lewis Shrack was the well-known proprietor of the Norristown and Philadelphia stage line in early times, and his wife was of Welsh parentage and descent.

James W. Shrack attended the Norristown academy, and was trained to mercantile life in the store of his brother-in-law, John Bean. In 1836 he became the junior member in the firm of Bean & Shrack, and nine years later commenced the dry goods business alone at the northwest corner of Main and DeKalb streets, which he conducted up to 1854, when he associated A. A. Yeakle wtth him under the firm name of Shrack & Yeakle. This last firm continued until Mr. Shrack's death in 1876.

On January 13, 1835, Mr. Shrack married Lydia Setzler, a daughter of Frederick Setzler, of Lawrenceville, Chester county, and to their union were born eight children.

James W. Shrack was a man of great business energy and activity, and at the time of his death was the oldest merchant of Norristown. He was a member and senior warden of St. John's Episcopal church and as deputy, represented the parish in the diocesan convention. He often indulged his kindness of heart and generosity beyond his financial means. He was quick to observe and condemn wrong, but as ready to forgive. He was devoted to his home and family. He was of medium height, light complexion and of good personal appearance. He died at his handsome residence on Airy street, opposite St. John's church, on March 22, 1876, and his remains were interred in Montgomery cemetery. One who knew him well wrote in the *Episcopal Recorder:* "We have lost a friend and supporter of every good work and enterprise having for its object the preservation and spread of the true gospel of the word of God. As a member of the Protestant Episcopal church, Mr. Shrack was earnest, zealous and heartily in sympathy with the movements which the Evangelical portion made to preserve it from innovations and teachings not in harmony with its traditions as a Protestant body."

HON. BIRD WILSON, D. D., LL. D., whose kindness of heart induced him to resign his seat on the bench before he would sentence a murderer to death, was a son of Hon. James Wilson, and was born at Carlisle, this State, January 8, 1777. Hon. James Wilson was born near St Andrews, Scotland, in 1742, and came to Philadelphia in 1766. He was a lawyer and was one of the signers of the immortal Declara-

tion of Independence. His son, Hon. Bird Wilson, received his education at the University of Pennsylvania, read law and was admitted to the bar in 1797. He was appointed president judge of the seventh judicial circuit in 1806, and served until 1818, when he resigned. He then studied for the ministry of the Episcopal church and served as a rector until 1821 of St John's and St Thomas' churches. In 1821 he removed to New York where he was a professor for many years in the General Theological seminary. He never married, and died April 14, 1859. Dr. Wilson was very kind of heart and provided for several years for his younger brothers and sisters.

HON. JONATHAN ROBERTS, the most distinguished man in political life that Montgomery county ever produced, was a son of Jonathan Roberts, and was born at Swamp Vrass farm, Upper Merion township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, August 16, 1771. John Roberts, a millwright, from North Wales, settled in Lower Merion township, in 1682. At sixty years of age he married Elizabeth Owen, a girl of eighteen years, and Matthew, the youngest of their three children, was a blacksmith and the owner of Swamp Vrass, and wedded Sarah Walter, by whom he had five children. Jonathan Roberts, the eldest of these children, received a good education and served as a member of the Colonial Assembly from 1771 to 1775, but being a Quaker when the Revolution came he retired from public service. He took a prominent part in organizing Montgomery county, served as a member of Congress and died at eighty-two years of age.

Hon. Jonathan Roberts left school at sixteen years of age and learned the trade of wheelwright, which he never followed, but gave his time for several years to farming, reading and self study. He served with credit in the Assembly and ability in the State Senate, and in 1810 was elected to Congress, where he served with distinction for two terms. At the end of that time, in 1814, he was elected to the United States Senate, in which he served from 1815 to 1821 with marked ability, and opposed the introduction of slavery in Missouri, made a speech still quoted for its eloquence and logic and clear exposition of the slavery question. While in Congress he supported Madison in his war policy and thus lost his membership in the Society of Friends. In 1823 he was elected to the Pennsylvania legislature, where almost single handed he opposed Jackson's endorsement for President by the legislation. After that he served on the canal board for a time, and in 1839 was instrumental in nominating John Tyler for Vice President, who, after becoming President, appointed Senator Roberts as collector of customs for the port of Philadelphia, and then removed him because he would not allow the custom house force to be corruptly manipulated in the interests of Tyler's efforts for a presidential nomination. He then retired from public life and died July 21, 1855, aged seventy-one years. He married Eliza H. Bushby, of Washington city, who survived him for nearly eleven years. He was a close student and hard worker during his entire lifetime, believing that habits of industry constituted the foundation of personal and political independence. He advocated internal improvements, believed in protection for home industries and opposed the institution of slavery. He lived a life worthy of imitation, and passed from the cradle to the grave without a blot on his name.

REV. GEORGE MICHAEL WEISS, one of the four ministers who organized on October 12, 1746, the First Reformed Synod (German) in America, was a native of the Palatinate, on the Rhine, in Germany, and was sent to this country by the upper consistory or classis of the Palatinate. He came with a number of people as their pastor, and settled at Skippack, this county, where they built a wooden church and organized one of the first regular German congregations in Pennsylvania. Rev. Weiss was a fine Latin scholar, and a man of energy and did much to build up the Reformed church. He served churches in New York and Pennsylvania, and died at Goshenhoppen in 1763. He had acquired considerable wealth, owning Green Lane iron works, a large tract of land and twenty slaves at the time of his death.

REV. SAMUEL AARON, A. M., was the most distinguished teacher and minister of Montgomery county. On his tombstone his parishioners inscribed the sentence: "Honored as a minister, beloved as a friend, revered as a teacher of youth, he is mourned as the guide and comfort of many." He was a son of Moses and Hannah Aaron, and was born in New Britain township, Bucks county, Pennsylvania, October 19, 1800. He was of Welsh-Irish descent, received his education in Dubois' Doylestown academy and Gummere's Mathematical school, and then engaged in teaching. He was ordained to the Baptist ministry in 1829, and spent the remainder of his life as a minister and teacher. His ministerial career was three years at New Britain, five at Burlington, New Jersey, three at Norristown, and six at Mt. Holly, New Jersey. He taught for forty-five years and most of the time was principal of Treemount seminary, of which he was principal from 1851 to 1857, and from whose walls during that period went forth General Hancock and Hartranft and scores of those who afterwards became distinguished in military and civil life Endorsing for friends who failed in the panic of 1857, he was compelled to leave Norristown and remove to Mt. Holly, New Jersey, where he followed preaching and teaching nearly up to the time of his death, on April 11, 1865.

In 1824 Mr. Aaron married Emilia Dubois, eldest daughter of Rev. Uriah Dubois, of Doylestown, this State.

As a minister Samuel Aaron was able and eloquent, and after convincing the judgment made impassioned appeals to the feelings. He held non-resistent views, was a champion of temperance and anti-slavery, and took part in the Republican convention that nominated Fremont for President. He received his degree of A. M. from Brown University, and through Treemount seminary, made a lasting impression on the history of Montgomery county and the eastern part of the State. Rev. Samuel Aaron was of average height, stout build, florid complexion, and light hair, with a small eye but prodigious forehead, indicative of his great intellectual force and strength. After his death, John G. Whittier, Wendell Phillips and others of national reputation wrote sympathizing letters to his bereaved family.

FREDERICK A. MUHLENBERG, eminent as the first speaker of the house of representatives of the United States, was the second son of Rev. Henry Melchoir and Anna Maria (Weiser) Muhlenberg, and was born at Trappe, Montgomery

county, Pennsylvania, June 2, 1750. He was educated at the University of Halle, and settled over a Lutheran church in New York city, but left it when the British entered the place and like his brother, General Peter, never returned to the ministry. He served in the State assembly in 1779, was one of the first judges of Montgomery county, which he also served as register and recorder from 1784 to 1789 and served four terms as a member of congress. He had also been a member of the Continental congress for two terms, and ran for governor in 1793 and again in 1796, but was defeated each time. He died in 1802, when holding the office of receiver general of the Pennsylvania land office.

LUCRETIA (COFFIN) MOTT, who for several years was a resident of Cheltenham township, Montgomery county, was one of the most remarkable women this country ever produced. "Truth for authority, not authority for truth" was the form of a favorite aphorism which Lucretia Mott wrote in a fair, round hand on the back of a photographed portrait when she was eighty-six years of age. By the principle formulated in this aphorism the career of this noble woman was always governed. It was a predominating element in her character. It was the light she followed: the inspirer of her courage to walk fearlessly in the path of duty prescribed by the light within—the conscience—Emmanuel, God with us. Her name was a synonym for a rare combination of Christian graces. Hers was a strong, sweet, and noble soul, ever guided by unswerving loyalty to truth and righteousness. Lucretia Mott was a descendant of one of the earliest settlers on Nantucket, where she was born on the 3d of January, 1793. Her parents removed to Boston, and when she was thirteen years of age, she was sent to the "Nine Partners" boarding school, an institution established by the Friends, in Duchess county, New York, a few years before. There she was under the instruction of Deborah Rodgers (afterwards Mrs. Jacob Willetts), who died in 1879 at the age of above ninety years. During her absence at that time her parents removed to Philadelphia. She returned home and two years later, in 1812, married James Mott, a young merchant and a Quaker. At twenty-five years of age she became a minister and extended her labors from Virginia to Massachusetts. She battled against war, intemperance and slavery, and in 1827 joined the Hicksite branch of her church. She took an active part in the organization of the American Anti-Slavery society at Philadelphia in 1833, and was sent in 1840 to the World's Anti-Slavery convention at London, where she was refused a seat because she was a woman, but astonished many of the delegates by speaking at a breakfast to which they were invited. She believed in woman's right to the ballot. As a minister or speaker, she spoke to the heart and judgment, and was a model of purity, elegance and force.

Mrs. Mott died on November 11, 1880, at her home in Philadelphia. Husband and children had departed before, but no funeral gloom shadowed her spirit, for she was in sympathy with all sufferers, and a bright, beckoning hope always made her cheerful. The atmosphere of her home was almost ideal in its peace and harmony. She leaned trustingly upon her husband as the stronger being. His was a nature similar to her own, but he was a very silent

man. She was fond of bright things, and had a piano, paintings, and warm colors in the carpets and curtains of her home. Mrs. Mott was of small stature and figure, and her face had the charm of delicate and regular features, combined with great strength of character. Her eyes were very bright, and expressive of great intelligence, appearing gray ordinarily, but when animated in conversation or by some strong emotion, their color deepened and appeared almost black.

CHARLES THOMSON, who was so prominent as secretary of the Continental Congress during its entire existence, was a resident of Montgomery county for many years. Of him Lossing says:

"Of all the patriots of the Revolution, no man was better acquainted with the men and events of that struggle, than Charles Thomson, who was the permanent secretary of the Continental Congress for more than fifteen years. He was born in Ireland in 1730, and at the age of eleven years was brought to America in company with three older brothers. Their father died from the effects of sea-sickness, when within sight of the capes of the Delaware. They landed at New Castle, in Delaware, and had no other capital with which to commence life in the new world, than strong and willing hands, and honest hearts. Charles was educated at New London, in Pennsylvania, by Dr. Allison, and became a teacher in the Friends' academy, at New Castle. He went to Philadelphia, where he enjoyed the friendship of Dr. Franklin and other eminent men. In 1756 he was secretary for the Delaware Indians, at a great council held with the white people, at Easton; and that tribe adopted him as a son, according to an ancient custom. With all the zeal of an ardent nature, Thomson espoused the republican cause; and when the first Continental Congress met, in Philadelphia, in September, 1774, he was called to the responsible duty of secretary to that body. At about that time he married Hannah Harrison (the aunt of President Harrison), whose brother, Benjamin, was one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. Year after year, Mr. Thomson kept the records of the proceedings of Congress, until the new organization of the government under the Federal Constitution, in 1789. But the demands of public business did not wean him from books, of which he was a great lover. He had a passion for the study of Greek authors, and actually translated the Septuagint from the original into the English. He made copious notes of the progress of the Revolution, and after retiring from public life, in 1789, he prepared a history of his own times. But his sense of justice and goodness of heart, would not permit him to publish it; and a short time before he died, he destroyed the manuscript. He gave as a reason, that he was unwilling to blast the reputation of families rising into repute, whose progenitors were proved to be unworthy of the friendship of good men, because of their bad conduct during the war. So the world has lost the most authentic civil history of the struggle for independence, ever produced. Mr. Thomson died on the 16th of August, 1824, when in the ninety-fifth year of his age. He then resided at Lower Merion, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, where he was buried. In 1838, his nephew removed his remains to Laurel Hill cemetery, over which is a handsome monument, bearing an appropriate inscription, composed by John F. Watson, Esq., the annalist."

REV. HENRY M. MUHLENBERG, who is known as the founder of the Evangelical church in America, was born at Eimbeck, in Hanover, Germany, in September, 1711. He received his education in the famous universities of Gottingen and Halle, was graduated from the theological school of the former in 1735, and after being ordained, felt the necessity of there being a regularly educated Lutheran ministry in America. He came to Philadelphia in 1743, and commenced organizing churches and building houses of worship for existing congregations. The next year he came to Trappe, where he died October 6, 1787, after having broken the bread of life to the German Lutherans of Pennsylvania in their mother tongue for nearly half a century. He succeeded in placing the American Lutheran church on a firm foundation and giving to her a regularly educated ministry.

Rev. Muhlenberg married Anna Maria Weiser, a daughter of the celebrated Indian interpreter, Conrad Weiser. Their children were: General Peter, Hon. Frederick A., Rev. Henry E., Mary, wife of General Francis Swayne; one daughter that married Rev. John Shultz, was the mother of Governor Shultz; and two other daughters whose names cannot be secured at this writing.

MAJ.-GENERAL THOMAS CRAIG, of the Seventh division of Pennsylvania, was the first associate judge of Montgomery county. He was a son of Thomas Craig, who came to Ireland in 1728, and was born in 1740, in the Irish or Craig settlement, which was four miles from Bath. He served in the Revolutionary war, was promoted from captain to colonel, and commanded the Third Pennsylvania regiment from 1777 to 1781. He served under St. Clair and afterwards with Washington. He resided in Montgomery county for several years, and held different county offices. He afterwards returned to Northampton county, was elected major-general of the Seventh division of Pennsylvania militia, and died in 1832, at the ripe age of ninety-two years.

NICHOLAS SCULL, surveyor general of the province of Pennsylvania, from June 14, 1748, to the time of his death in November, 1761, was the eldest son of Nicholas and May Scull, who settled in Whitemarsh township in 1685. Nicholas Scull, the younger, was born in Whitemarsh township, and became one of the best surveyers of his day. He received a good education, was a fine Indian interpreter, and in 1708 married Abigail Heap, who died in 1753 at sixty-five years of age. He served as sheriff of Philadelphia county and as surveyor general, and his maps of Philadelphia and Pennsylvania and Maryland surpassed all previous ones for correctness and neatness.

GENERAL PETER MUHLENBERG, one of the two distinguished Pennsylvanians who were awarded statues in the Federal capitol at Washington city, is eloquently described by the historian, Lossing, as follows: "Spiritual and temporal warfare was the lot of many gospel ministers during the War for Independence. Of those who wielded weapons manfully in both fields of conflict, was John Peter Gabriel Muhlenberg, who generally wrote his name with the John and Gabriel

omitted. He was a native of Trappe, a village in Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, where he was born on the 1st of October, 1746. He was the son of Dr. Melchoir Muhlenberg (the founder of the Lutheran church in America) and the daughter of Conrad Weiser, the great Pennsylvania Indian agent. Peter was educated for the ministry, partly in this country, and partly in Europe. He was ordained in 1768, and commenced his pastoral labors in western New Jersey the following year. He was called to the charge of a congregation in Virginia in 1771, and it being necessary to obtain ordination from an English bishop, before he could enter upon his duties there, he went to London for the purpose at the beginning of the following year. He and Mr. (afterward Bishop) White were ordained at the same time. On his return, he became minister of the parish of Woodstock, Virginia, and was soon an acknowledged leading spirit of that section among those who opposed British aggressions. He was chairman of the committee of safety in that county in 1774, and was elected to a seat in the House of Burgesses. At the close of 1775, he was appointed colonel of a Virginia regiment, and relinquished his pastoral duties. In concluding his farewell sermon, he quoted the language of Holy Writ which declares that there is a "time for all things," and added, with a trumpet voice, "there is a time to fight, and that time has now come!" Then laying aside his gown, he stood before his flock in the full uniform of a Virginia colonel. He then ordered the drums to be beaten at the church door for recruits, and almost three hundred men, chiefly of his congregation, were enrolled under his banner that day. He joined the army and was in the battle at Charleston in June, 1776. Congress commissioned him a brigadier in February, 1777, and he was ordered to take charge of all the Virginia Continental troops. He joined the army under Washington at Middlebrook in May, and was with the chief in all his movements from that time until 1779—Brandywine, Germantown, White Marsh, Valley Forge, and Monmouth. He was with Wayne at the capture of Stony Point, in July, 1779, and was very active afterward in Virginia until the capture of Cornwallis in the autumn of 1781. He was a brave participator in that last great battle of the Revolution. At the close of the war he was promoted to major-general, and removed to Pennsylvania. He never resumed his ministerial labors, but served his native State in several civil offices. He was a member of the first and third Congress after the organization of the Federal government, and was also a United States Senator in 1801. He was appointed supervisor of the revenue of Pennsylvania the same year; and in 1802 he was made collector of the port of Philadelphia. In that office he remained until his death, which occurred at his country seat, near Philadelphia, on the 1st of October, 1807, when he was precisely sixty-one years of age. His remains lie buried in the burial ground at Trappe, near the church wherein he was baptized."

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